



House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington. The Republican-controlled U.S. Congress passed major trade legislation Wednesday that was long-sought by President Barack Obama. (AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais) Page 4



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## Landmark Dutch ruling: Cut emissions to protect citizens

**MIKE CORDER**  
**Associated Press**

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)** — A Dutch court ordered the government Wednesday to slash greenhouse gas emissions to help fight global warming, a landmark ruling in a

ments to take more action to tackle global warming against a backdrop of slow-moving international negotiations aimed at forging a global agreement. "The verdict is a milestone in the history of climate legislation, because it is

licensing of new oil blocks in the Arctic, saying it violates the constitutional obligation to protect the climate.

"This is a great victory. The judge said exactly what we wanted and had the courage and wisdom to say to

conference later this year in Paris where it's hoped that a worldwide accord to fight global warming will be signed.

The Dutch plaintiffs argued — and the court agreed — that the government has a legal obligation to protect its people against looming dangers, including the effects of climate change on this low-lying country. Large swaths of the Netherlands are below sea level and vulnerable to rising sea levels blamed on global warming.

The Dutch government, which can appeal, said it was studying the ruling. Environment Minister Wilma Mansveld said the government and Urgenda "share the same goal. We just hold different opinions regarding the manner in which to attain this goal."

Mansveld said the Dutch are working toward European Union greenhouse targets — cutting emissions by at least 20 percent by 2020, from 1990 levels.

"Preventing climate change is the most successful when as many countries as possible join forces," Mansveld said.

But judges said they want more action from the minister. "The state must do more to avert the imminent danger caused by climate change, also in view of its duty of care to protect and improve the living environment," read a statement from the court.

To avoid the most dangerous impacts of climate change, which is caused by heat-trapping carbon dioxide being released by burning fossil fuels, countries around the world have agreed that global temperatures should stay below a 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 F) rise compared to pre-industrial times.

A U.N. climate science panel has stated that to have a two-thirds chance of staying below that mark the world must cut emissions by some 40 to 70 percent by 2050.

While the Netherlands is known as a land of windmills, it is also a country with vast natural gas reserves that are used to power millions of households. It lags behind many of its European neighbors in the amount of energy it consumes from clean, renewable sources like wind or solar power.

According to the EU statistics agency Eurostat, only 4.5 percent of Dutch energy consumption came from renewables in 2013, compared to an EU average of 15 percent. Sweden led the way with just over 52 percent.

Renewable energy accounted for about 10 percent of total U.S. energy consumption in 2014, according to the country's Energy Information Agency.

The Dutch court said it was difficult to judge the economic impact of its ruling on Dutch companies but said "climate policy can have a negative effect for one sector, but a positive effect for another."

Dutch business organization VNO-NCW did not immediately respond to requests for comment about the ruling's possible effects on its members.

Bill Hare, senior scientist at Climate Analytics, a non-profit organization based in Berlin, said the Dutch ruling's impact could be massive.

"(This) has the potential to become a precedent whose effect will ultimately flow through to undermining the markets for coal, oil and gas," he said. □



**Urgenda Foundation director Marjan Minnesma, left, and lawyers Koos van der Berg, center, and Roger Cox, right, pose for pictures after a Dutch court ordered the government to cut the country's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 25 percent by 2020 in a groundbreaking climate case that activists hope will set a worldwide precedent in The Hague, Netherlands, Wednesday, June 24, 2015.**  
(AP Photo/Peter Dejong)

case brought by hundreds of concerned citizens that could pave the way for similar legal battles around the world.

Climate activists in a packed courtroom in The Hague erupted into cheers as Presiding Judge Hans Hofhuis told Dutch authorities to cut the country's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 25 percent by 2020 from benchmark 1990 levels.

The country currently is on track for a 17-percent reduction and it is not clear how it can achieve the further cut.

Environmentalists hailed the ruling as a victory in efforts to push govern-

ments to take more action to tackle global warming against a backdrop of slow-moving international negotiations aimed at forging a global agreement. "The verdict is a milestone in the history of climate legislation, because it is

the first time that a government was ordered to raise its climate ambition by a court," said Wendel Trio, Director of Climate Action Network Europe. "We hope this kind of legal action will be replicated in Europe and around the world." Greenpeace called the Dutch ruling "a game-changer in the fight against climate change."

The Dutch case may have already helped spur environmentalists in other countries into legal action. Activists say a similar case is coming in Belgium and in Norway, a coalition of non-government groups is working on a case challenging their government's



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## Obama clears the way for US hostages' families to pay ransom



President Barack Obama speaks in the Roosevelt Room of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, June 24, 2015, about the completion of the Hostage Policy Review. The president is clearing the way for families of U.S. hostages to pay ransom to terror groups without fear of prosecution, as the White House seeks to address criticism from those whose loved ones have been killed in captivity. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

**JULIE PACE**

**AP White House Correspondent**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama said

Wednesday that the U.S. government had let down the families of Americans held hostage by terrorists, and he outlined new

policies that could make it easier for those families to pay ransom to help free their loved ones.

"These families have al-

ready suffered enough and they should never feel ignored or victimized by their own government," Obama said as he detailed the results of a six-month review of U.S. hostage policy. The review's conclusions aim to streamline and improve communications with families, who have sharply criticized the government for providing them with confusing and contradictory information. Some families have complained about threats of criminal prosecution if they seek to pay ransom to terrorists — threats Obama said would end.

"The last thing we should ever do is add to a family's pain with threats like that," Obama said.

The president's pledge essentially clears the way for families to take actions the U.S. government has long said put Americans abroad at greater risk. While no formal changes were being

made to a law prohibiting material support for terrorists, the Justice Department indicated it would essentially ignore the law in most situations involving families.

Obama expressed his concerns that paying ransoms makes Americans greater targets for kidnapping and increases funding for terrorists. He also said the U.S. government would continue to abide by the "no concessions" policy, but made clear that government officials can have contact with hostage-takers. Critics of the White House review argue that allowing families to do what the government will not could lead to those same troubling consequences.

"We have had a policy in the United States for over 200 years of not paying ransom and not negotiating with terrorists," said John Boehner, a senior Republican Congressman. □

## US, China agree to work on cyber code of conduct

**M. PENNINGTON**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama closed out two days of talks between U.S. and Chinese officials on Wednesday by raising concerns about Chinese cyber behavior and tensions over disputed seas of East Asia. He urged China to take action to reduce the tensions, the White House said.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said China agreed to work with the U.S. to complete a

code of conduct on cyber activities. He said intrusions have raised security questions and harmed U.S. businesses, and the two countries should be working together for a shared understanding of appropriate state behavior in cyberspace.

The high-level talks in Washington were a prelude to Chinese President Xi Jinping's upcoming visit to the U.S. this fall, with both sides emphasizing areas of cooperation, particularly on climate change.

On Wednesday they agreed to step up cooperation on preserving the ocean and combating illegal fishing. Kerry said that shows the two nations are "working hard to address differences and to find the areas of commonality."

On the economic front, Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said China has committed to intervene in the foreign exchange market only when necessitated by disorderly market conditions.

The U.S. has long been

concerned that China's currency is undervalued against the dollar, which helps its exporters. Lew acknowledged the renminbi has appreciated in value, and China's foreign exchange intervention has declined over the past year. But Obama made clear that problems remain as U.S. officials met with leaders of the Chinese delegation at the White House on Wednesday afternoon.

"The President raised ongoing U.S. concerns about

China's cyber and maritime behavior, and he urged China to take concrete steps to lower tensions," the White House said in a statement after the meeting.

State Councilor Yang Jiechi said China cracks down on hacking and is ready to cooperate with the U.S. on cybersecurity. But he urged the U.S. to "respect facts." China has recently denied allegations it was behind a massive breach of U.S. federal personnel records. □




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Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal waves to the crowd with his wife Supriya Jindal after he announced his candidacy for president in Kenner, La., Wednesday, June 24, 2015.

(AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

## Gov. Jindal enters 2016 presidential race

**MELINDA DESLATE**

**Associated Press**

**KENNER, Louisiana (AP)**

— Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, pitching himself as a “doer” in a field of talkers, declared his candidacy for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination Wednesday and set about trying to distinguish himself from better known rivals.

It’s a long-shot effort for an accomplished but overshadowed governor, and his prospects will depend in large measure on his continued courtship of evangelical voters. But several other contenders also are determined to win over that group.

“We have a bunch of great talkers running for president,” Jindal said at his opening rally. “It’s time for a doer. I’m not running for president to be somebody. I’m running for president to do something.”

Jindal, the nation’s first elected Indian-American governor, can point to a political career filled with many achievements in a short time: a position as state health secretary when he was merely age

24, election to Congress at 32 and election as governor four years later.

But the Republican lineup does not lack seasoned politicians, some with much more star power.

Jindal announced his campaign online earlier Wednesday.

Video clips on his website showed Jindal and his wife, Supriya, talking to their three children about the campaign to come.

Aides discussed Jindal’s plans to focus on social conservatives, as he has done for months in extensive travels, and highlight his reputation as a leader steeped in policy.

Jindal intends to present himself as “the youngest candidate with the longest resume,” citing an extensive background in public policy and government, strategist Curt Anderson said. Unpopular at home, Jindal waited until the state legislative session had ended and lawmakers found a way to close a \$1.6 billion budget gap before he scheduled his presidential announcement. But he has been building his cam-

paign for months with trips to key presidential voting states, particularly Iowa, where he has focused on Christian conservatives.

Raised Hindu but a convert to Catholicism as a teenager, Jindal has talked of his religious faith in small churches across Louisiana. As he readied his presidential campaign, the governor put out an executive order to grant special “religious freedom” protections to people in Louisiana who oppose same-sex marriage.

He is competing with several contenders, including Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, who also are trying to appeal to the same pool of evangelical voters.

While Jindal will continue to focus on “religious liberty,” Anderson said, he aims to prove a candidate can be “both smart and Christian.” And in recent weeks, Jindal has worked to showcase more of the policy wonk reputation that got him elected governor, rather than just focusing on cultural issues. □

## Republican-led Congress hands Obama a major victory on trade

**CHARLES BABINGTON**

**DAVID ESPO**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Republican-controlled U.S. Congress passed major trade legislation Wednesday that was long-sought by President Barack Obama but vehemently opposed by most lawmakers in his Democratic party.

The measure would allow Obama to negotiate global trade deals that Congress could approve or reject, but not change. The administration was seeking the “fast track” as it works to complete a round of trade negotiations involving 12 nations along both sides of the Pacific Ocean, including Japan.

The 12 participating nations in the current Pacific-based talks account for 40 percent of the world’s economy, and include Japan, Malaysia, Australia, Canada and Mexico. China is not a member, and Obama says a ratified Pacific-rim pact will reassert the United States’ muscular role in international standards for commerce, treatment of workers and the environment.

Obama’s victory comes at a pivotal juncture in his second term. He is bracing for a Supreme Court ruling on his landmark health care law, and next week’s deadline is approaching for reaching a deal on Iran’s nuclear program.

The measure to strengthen Obama’s hand in the Pacific Rim trade talks cleared the Senate on a vote of 60-38, and will go to the White House for his signature — less than two weeks after it was temporarily derailed in the House in an uprising of Democratic lawmakers.

A companion bill, to renew an expiring program of federal aid for workers disadvantaged by imports, passed by voice vote less than an hour later. Final approval in the House is expected on Thursday.

The rapid sequence of events capped the end of a back-and-forth struggle that played out slowly over months, with Obama, Speaker John Boehner, and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, both Republicans, on one side, and the union-backed Democratic leadership of the House and Senate on the other.

The pace accelerated dramatically less than two weeks ago, when House Democrats prevailed in an early showdown that sent the White House and congressional Republican leaders into a rescue operation. On Wednesday, McConnell, a frequent Obama antagonist, praised the president and Democrats who joined the Republicans on the bipartisan measure vigorously sought by the nation’s chief executive.

“We were really pleased to see President Obama pursue an idea we’ve long believed in,” McConnell said. “We thank him for his efforts to help us pass a bill to advance it.”

Sen. Orrin Hatch, the Republican chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, hailed the measure as “the most important bill that will pass the Senate this year,” and one that will prove to be an aid to the economy. Sen. Sherrod Brown, a Democrat, countered shortly before the vote that it would be nothing of the sort. □



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# As South Carolina grieves, US debates divisive symbols



A South Carolina Highway Patrol honor guard carries Sen. Clementa Pinckney's casket to the Statehouse, Wednesday, June 24, 2015, in Columbia, S.C. Pinckney's open coffin was being put on display under the dome where he served the state for nearly 20 years. Pinckney was one of those killed in a mass shooting at the Emanuel AME Church in Charleston.

(AP Photo/Rainier Ehrhardt)

SEANNA  
JEFFREY  
JONATHAN  
Associated Press

ADCOX  
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DREW

**COLUMBIA, South Carolina (AP)** — The Confederate flag flew high Wednesday outside the South Carolina main government building, but a large drape kept mourners from seeing it as they filed past the open casket of a veteran lawmaker and pastor killed in last week's attack on a historic black church.

The slayings of the pastor and eight others by a white man is prompting soul-searching in the United States over historic but divisive symbols. The make-shift drape obscuring the flag, which represented the southern states that tried to secede during the U.S. civil war, only emphasized how quickly this symbol of Southern pride has fallen into official disrepute.

Alabama Governor Robert Bentley became the first southern governor to use his executive power to remove

Confederate banners, as four flags with secessionist symbols were taken down Wednesday from a large monument to rebel soldiers outside that state's capitol. "It has become a distraction all over the country right now," Bentley said. The iconic Confederate battle flag in particular "is offensive to some people because unfortunately, it's like the swastika; some people have adopted that as part of their hate-filled groups." In South Carolina, making any changes to "heritage" symbols requires a two-thirds supermajority of both houses of the state legislature, and while lawmakers voted overwhelmingly for a debate later this summer, few wanted to risk ugly words during a week of funerals. The state governor has called to move the flag to a museum.

Lawmakers across the state took aim at other symbols, from a bust of Confederate general and Ku Klux Klan leader to the Confederate

vanity license plates used by thousands of motorists in various southern states.

Many said change is imperative after seeing photos of Dylann Storm Roof, a 21-year-old white man, posing with the Confederate flag and burning and desecrating the U.S. flag. Now jailed on murder and gun charges, Roof was appointed federal public defenders on Wednesday as the Justice Department considers whether to file hate crime charges.

Other photographs showing Roof posing at Confederate museums, former slave plantations and slave graves were uploaded to a website along with an essay whose writer wished every

white person had a chance to brutalize blacks before the Civil War.

"This is an extraordinary opportunity for South Carolina to be the beacon on the hill — to show love and not vengeance, to show unity and not division," said David Beasley, who lost the governorship in 1998 after advocating for the flag's removal. Even at the Citadel, South Carolina influential military college, whose cadets fired the first shots of the Civil War, board members voted in favor of moving its Confederate Naval Jack flag from its prominent place inside its main chapel to a more "appropriate" campus location.

Businesses followed suit.

Wal-Mart, e-Bay, Amazon, Target and Sears are among those saying Confederate merchandise will be gone from their stores and online sites. At least three major flag makers said they will no longer manufacture the rebel battle flag.

A growing number of the Confederate symbols that appear all over the South have been defaced by graffiti in recent days.

The few lawmakers openly defending the flag include Republican Jonathon Hill, a South Carolina representative who said it should remain above the monument to fallen Confederate soldiers, and that addressing it now disrespects the victims' families. □

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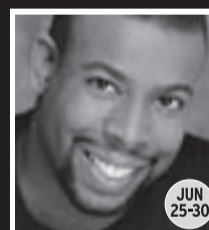
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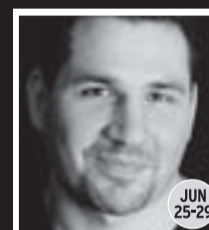
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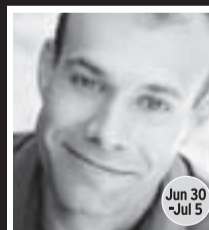
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## Boston Marathon bomber says he's sorry for the first time

**DENISE LAVOIE**

**AP Legal Affairs Writer**

**BOSTON (AP)** — In a startling turn, Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev rose to his feet and apologized to the victims and their loved ones for the first time Wednesday just before a judge formally sentenced him to death.

"I am sorry for the lives that I've taken, for the suffering that I've caused you, for the damage that I've done — irreparable damage," the 21-year-old college student said in his Russian accent, breaking more than two years of public silence.

To the victims, he said: "I pray for your relief, for your healing."

After Tsarnaev said his piece, U.S. District Judge George O'Toole Jr. quoted Shakespeare's line "The evil that men do lives after them. The good is often interred with their bones."



In this courtroom sketch, Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, right, stands before U.S. District Judge George O'Toole Jr. as he addresses the court during his sentencing, Wednesday, June 24, 2015, in federal court in Boston.

(Jane Flavell Collins via AP)

"So it will be for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev," the judge said, telling Tsarnaev that no

one will remember that his teachers were fond of him, that his friends found him

fun to be with or that he showed compassion to disabled people.

"What will be remembered is that you murdered and maimed innocent people, and that you did it willfully and intentionally. You did it on purpose," O'Toole said. "I sentence you to the penalty of death by execution," he said.

Tsarnaev looked down and rubbed his hands together as the judge pronounced his fate.

The apology came after Tsarnaev listened impassively for about three hours as a procession of victims and their loved ones lashed out at him for his "cowardly" and "disgusting" acts.

"He can't possibly have had a soul to do such a horrible thing," said Karen Rand McWatters, who lost a leg in the attack and whose best friend, 29-year-old Krystle Campbell, was killed.

The outcome of the proceedings was never in doubt: The judge was required under law to impose the jury's death sentence for the April 15, 2013, attack that killed three people and wounded more than 260.

The only real suspense was whether Tsarnaev would say anything when given a chance to speak near the end of the proceedings. Until Wednesday, he had said almost nothing publicly since his arrest more than two years ago, offering neither remorse nor explanation. During his trial, he showed a trace of emotion only once, when he cried while his Russian aunt was on the stand. And the only evidence of any remorse came from Sister Helen Prejean, a prominent death penalty opponent, who quoted him as saying of the victims: "No one deserves to suffer like they did." □

### At Press Time:

## Search for NY inmates goes through thick woods

**JOHN KEKIS**

**Associated Press**

**BELMONT, New York (AP)**

— Searchers hunting for two escaped killers in the state of New York on Wednesday were contending with steep slopes, thick woods, sticky bogs, biting bugs and the possibility that the pair on the lam from prison for 19 days is armed.

Police said they remain almost 100 percent certain that the inmates spent time recently at a hunting camp about 20 miles (30 kilometers) west of the prison from which they escaped. A hunter said he saw a figure bolting from the cabin on Saturday morning. But after days of intense searching

with dogs and helicopters, police still had no substantiated sightings of the pair. The woods that the searchers are combing are so so thick that visibility is very limited, authorities said. The woods also are dotted with hundreds of seasonal and hunting camps.

State Police Maj. Charles Guess told reporters Wednesday that authorities don't have confirmed evidence that a shotgun was stolen from a hunting cabin in the area, but they've always assumed the escapees were armed. Guess said it was possible the pair left the area, but promised that the more than 1,000 officers involved

would keep up the relentless search until the killers are captured.

"We don't want them to have a restful, peaceful night putting their head on any pillow," he said.

David Sweat, 35, was serving a life sentence without parole for killing a sheriff's deputy. Richard Matt, 48, was doing 25 years to life for the 1997 kidnapping, torture and hacksaw dismemberment of his former boss. They escaped from the prison in the town of Dannemora near the Canadian border on June 6. Authorities say the pair cut through the steel wall at the back of their cell, crawled down a catwalk,

broke through a brick wall, cut their way into and out of a steam pipe, and then sliced through the chain and lock on a manhole cover outside the prison.

A prison worker accused of helping the inmates escape remained in custody on charges she provided them with hacksaw blades, chisels and other tools. She has pleaded not guilty.

Clinton County District Attorney Andrew Wylie told reporters that the prison worker, Joyce Mitchell, admitted to investigators she smuggled hacksaw blades, a screwdriver and other tools into the prison by placing them in frozen hamburger meat. □

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## US Financial Front:

# Economy was not as bad in Q1, paving way for rebound

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. economy contracted in the first three months of the year, just not as much as previously estimated. More recent data show that the weakness was largely temporary, with a rebound in the works for the April-June quarter.

The economy, as measured by the gross domestic product, shrank at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 0.2 percent from January through March, the Commerce Department said Wednesday. That's better than last month's estimate of a 0.7 percent decrease. Harsh winter weather slowed spending by keeping consumers away from shopping malls and auto dealerships.

The trade deficit ballooned, slicing growth by the most since 1985 as exports fell and imports rose. Yet consumers stepped up their spending in May, and home sales are climbing — signs that the economy is back on track. In addition, many of the headwinds the economy faced in the first quarter — from an increase in the dollar's value to spending cutbacks by oil drillers — are fading.

"Growth should remain near 3 percent in the second half of the year as the dampening effects of a strong dollar and oil industry slump fade," Sal Guatieri, an economist at BMO Capital Markets, said in a note to clients.

Forecasting firm Macroeconomic Advisers predicts growth will reach 2.7 percent in the second quarter. And many economists agree with Guatieri that growth should reach 3

percent in the second half of the year.

Still, that would leave growth in the first half at a weak 1.2 percent annual rate. The economy appears to be on track for another year of modest 2 percent to 2.5 percent growth. That's far below the optimism at the beginning of the year, when lower oil prices and healthy hiring led many economists to forecast growth above 3 percent. The economy hasn't reached that level in a decade.

Exports were hammered in the first quarter by a sharp rise in the dollar's value, which makes U.S. goods more expensive overseas. The dollar has strengthened 15 percent in the past year compared with a basket of other currencies.

That also makes imports cheaper and better able to compete with U.S.-made goods. Imports increased 7.1 percent in the first quarter, while exports fell 5.9 percent.

That widened the trade gap, cutting nearly 1.9 percentage points from growth, the most in 30 years.

A trade dispute at West Coast ports also contributed to the disparity, but it has since been resolved. And the dollar's value has leveled off since March, suggesting its impact will lessen.

Oil and gas companies, meanwhile, sharply cut back on drilling and exploration activity and spent much less on steel pipe and other equipment. Business investment in structures, which include oil wells, dropped by nearly 19 percent, the most in four years. □



Carpenter Joe Tominc cuts wood for a post on a new construction home in Pepper Pike, Ohio. The Commerce Department issued its last of three estimates of how the U.S. economy performed in the January-March quarter on Wednesday, June 24, 2015.

(AP Photo/Tony Dejak)

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## NATO approves military upgrades to aid members of alliance



Ministers of Defense Ursula von der Leyen (Germany), left, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert (Netherlands), second left, and Ine Eriksen Soreide (Norway), right, speak with US Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter, second right, at the start of a meeting at EU headquarters in Brussels on Wednesday, June 24, 2015. (AP Photo/Thierry Monasse)

**JOHN DAHLBURG**  
**Associated Press**

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — Rejecting charges of engaging in a Cold War-style arms race with Russia, the U.S. and its NATO allies approved military upgrades Wednesday that should help them come to the aid of a threatened alliance member faster, with better equipment and more fire-

power. "We stand united in the way we are addressing the challenges we face," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said. Meeting at NATO headquarters in Brussels, U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter and counterparts from Canada and NATO's European member nations ordered an increase in the

strength of the alliance's Response Force, which was 13,000 at the start of 2015, to as many as 40,000. They also added air, sea and special forces units to the force, which includes a highly mobile, multinational "spearhead" brigade of 5,000 ground troops the ministers ordered to be formed in February so NATO can reinforce any

alliance member under threat within 48 hours.

Ministers also made it simpler and quicker for NATO generals and civilian officials to mobilize the force and bring it into action, Stoltenberg told a news conference. He said NATO will also develop more detailed advance plans to use in the case of crisis, and that a new joint logistics headquarters will be opened to help the NATO force deploy faster with the gear and supplies it needs.

Stoltenberg said the alliance revamp was in large part caused by Russia's annexation of Crimea from Ukraine, its alleged and continuing military incursion in eastern Ukraine, its ability to speedily mobilize large numbers of troops, and its escalating rhetoric about use of nuclear weapons. But the NATO chief said the alliance's sole goal is to protect itself — not to threaten Moscow. "We do not seek confrontation. And we do not want a new arms race," he said. "We want to keep our nations safe. And faced with many challenges from

many directions, we need to be prepared."

Russia too has been increasing its military capacities. Last week, it said it will add over 40 new intercontinental ballistic missiles this year alone. In early December, it flexed its muscle by airlifting state-of-the-art Iskander missiles, which can be fitted with nuclear or conventional warheads, to its westernmost Baltic territory of Kaliningrad.

They were later pulled back, but the deployment clearly served as a demonstration of the Russian military's readiness to quickly raise the ante in a crisis.

On Tuesday, Carter announced during a visit to Estonia that the U.S. will spread about 250 tanks, armored vehicles and other military equipment across a half-dozen of NATO's easternmost members that feel most at risk from Russia. Stoltenberg said the Pentagon chief also offered transport aircraft, air-to-air refueling capability, special forces and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets to support NATO's Response Force — a high-end contribution Stoltenberg said "completes the picture of a truly trans-Atlantic effort to reinforce our collective defense."

Earlier, Carter told reporters traveling with him that the Obama administration still hopes to work with the Russians on issues such as the Iran nuclear talks, the fight against the Islamic State group and efforts to bring about peaceful regime change in Syria. But Carter said NATO must adapt its deterrence and response capabilities "in anticipation that Russia might not change under Vladimir Putin, or even thereafter."

## Carter: NATO must bolster cyberdefense

**LOLITA C. BALDOR**  
**Associated Press**

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — NATO must improve its ability to defend itself against cyberattacks before it tries to build its offensive cyberwarfare capabilities, Defense Secretary Ash Carter told alliance leaders Wednesday amid rising tensions with Russia, which has proven its willingness to launch computer-based attacks against other nations. Carter's message runs

counter to some experts and leaders who believe NATO should begin to develop cyberweapons, in order to deter opponents in the 21st century. Senior defense officials said cybersecurity was one theme of Carter's remarks to the allies and to defense ministers he's met with in recent days. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

According to senior defense officials, Carter also wants NATO's cybercenter of excellence, which he visited in Estonia, to be more than a think tank. They said he wants the center to take on a more active role in helping allies counter cyberthreats. To help that along, Carter has announced that the U.S. will use its military cyber-expertise to help allies assess their vulnerabilities and reduce the risk to their critical infrastructure.

The discussion comes as cyberattacks from China and Russia dominate the headlines, including the most recent breach of U.S. government personnel and security clearance records. That attack has been linked to China, and Carter earlier this year blamed Russian hackers for a breach into an unclassified defense computer network. Russia also has been blamed for a breach of NATO's computer network last year.

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## No bailout deal yet for Greece as talks get bogged down



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras, left, is greeted by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker prior to a meeting at EU headquarters in Brussels on Wednesday, June 24, 2015. (Julien Warnand/Pool Photo via AP)

**D. GATOPOULOS  
R. CASERT**

**Associated Press**

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — Crucial talks between Greece and its creditors to keep the country solvent and within the euro got bogged down again Wednesday amid differences over what kind of reforms the country should make in ex-

change for loans.

The impasse forced euro-zone finance ministers to cut short a meeting, which they plan to resume Thursday. Concern over the lack of progress weighed on financial markets, with stock indexes falling in the U.S., where trading was still open.

Earlier in the day, Greek

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras held long talks with key creditors but bickered again over what kind of reforms the country should make in return for much-needed loans.

Greece has promised mainly tax increases to achieve budget savings, whereas the International Monetary Fund would like

more spending cuts. Tsipras rejected the creditors' new suggestions, saying they put both sides further away from a deal. "The Greek side is unable to agree on such a course," a Greek government official said after Tsipras assessed the proposals, which included fresh cuts in public sector payrolls and a timetable to scrap a pension safety net fund. "These are very tough negotiations," the Greek official said. "But there is a common will to get somewhere." The official spoke only on condition of anonymity because the talks were ongoing.

Wednesday's finance ministers' meeting was meant to iron out the details on the reforms in time for EU leaders to approve them at a summit they will hold Thursday. Now they will meet again only hours before the summit.

After the finance ministers broke up their meeting, Tsipras again went into meetings with European and IMF top officials.

Greece has a 1.6 billion euro (\$1.8 billion) debt to

pay on Tuesday which it cannot afford unless the creditors unfreeze 7.2 billion euros (8.1 billion dollars) in bailout money.

A Greek exit from the euro would be hugely painful for the country. Some experts say it could be manageable for Europe and the world economy, but that remains unclear.

The latest disagreement weighed on the Athens Stock Exchange, which earlier closed down 1.8 percent after big gains the previous two days. Government bond yields in Greece, Spain and Portugal rose, an indication of investor concern.

Elected on an anti-bailout platform in January, Tsipras' left-wing Syriza party had promised to scrap all austerity measures and demand forgiveness on a chunk of the country's bailout debt. Tsipras has had to backtrack partly on those pledges and now could have trouble persuading party lawmakers to back a new deal, which would have to be approved by Monday night. □

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## UN warns of impending famine in war-torn Yemen

**AHMED AL-HAJ**  
**EDITH M. LEDERER**  
**Associated Press**

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — The U.N. special envoy for Yemen warned Wednesday that the conflict-torn Middle East nation is “one step” from famine, with 31 million people in need of humanitarian assistance compared with just 7 million two years ago. Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed told reporters after briefing the U.N. Security Council behind closed doors that all parties to the conflict are responsible for the dire suffering of the Yemeni people until there is “a true cease-fire.”

The humanitarian crisis in the Arab world’s poorest country has escalated as the conflict has intensified. Ground fighting and Saudi-led airstrikes targeting Yemen’s Shiite Houthi rebels killed nearly 100 people Wednesday.

The fighting in Yemen pits the Houthis and allied troops loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh

against southern separatists, local and tribal militias, Sunni Islamic militants and loyalists of President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who is now based in Saudi Arabia. The rebels seized the capital, Sanaa, in September. In March, a Saudi-led and U.S.-backed coalition began launching airstrikes against the rebels and their allies.

The conflict has left 20 million Yemenis without access to safe drinking water and uprooted over one million people from their homes, Ould Cheikh Ahmed said.

A near-blockade of Yemen’s ports has made it very difficult to deliver humanitarian aid. But the International Committee of the Red Cross said a ship carrying 1,000 tons of food and three large generators from Oman had docked in Yemen’s Hodeida port on Wednesday.

“In view of the economic blockade that affects all the people in Yemen, the arrival of this emergency



**Boys stand near a wreckage of a car at the site of a car bomb attack in Sanaa, Yemen. The U.N. special envoy for Yemen warned Wednesday that the conflict-torn Middle East nation is “one step” from famine.**

(AP Photo/Hani Mohammed)

aid is a welcome development,” said Antoine Grand, who heads the ICRC in Yemen. “The food and generators will make a difference for tens of thousands of people directly affected by the armed conflict.”

While the ship’s arrival was a rare piece of good news, fighting kicked off at dawn

Wednesday in the cities of Ibb, Aden, Taiz, Marib, Dhale and the Houthi stronghold of Saada, killing nearly 100 people, including many civilians, Yemeni officials said. In Aden dozens of shells fell on densely populated neighborhoods, while artillery duels shook the city of Taiz. □

## Rwandans protest outside UK mission over held general

**EDMUND KAGIRE**  
**Associated Press**

**KIGALI, Rwanda (AP)** — Hundreds of people demonstrated outside the British diplomatic mission in Rwanda on Wednesday, saying they will not return home until a general detained in the UK is set free. The detention in London of Lt. Gen. Emmanuel Karenzi Karake, who serves as Rwanda’s spy chief, has prompted an angry response from Rwanda’s government, which says the charges against Karake are politically motivated.

Karake, a close ally of Rwandan President Paul Kagame, was one of 40 members of the Rwandan military indicted in 2008 on charges of terrorism and genocide by Spanish National Court Judge Fernando Andreu.

Gen. Karake allegedly oversaw the mass killings of Hutus in revenge for their genocide against Rwanda’s Tutsi people and was also behind the killing of eight Spanish humanitarian workers.

Spanish magistrates have used the principle of universal jurisdiction several times to go after current or former government leaders or terrorism suspects, but extraditions and convictions have been rare.

“We are here to stand in solidarity with our hero, who was among the people who stopped genocide in this country,” said Herbert Muhire, a protest leader. “We will not stop until he is released.” □

## IS blows up 2 mausoleums in Syria’s Palmyra

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Islamic State militants have destroyed two historic mausoleums in Palmyra, Syria’s top antiquities official said Wednesday, raising fears that the extremists could next target the town’s famed Roman ruins. Maamoun Abdulkarim, the head of the government’s Antiquities and Museums Department, told The Associated Press that the extremists destroyed the grave of Mohammad Bin Ali, a descendant of Imam Ali, cousin of Islam’s Prophet Muham-

mad and a deeply revered Shiite saint. The grave was just north of Palmyra.

The second tomb is close to the city’s famed Roman-era archaeological site and was the final resting place of a Sufi scholar, Nizar Abu Bahaa Eddine, who lived in Palmyra some 500 years ago.

The militants of the Islamic State group are Sunnis who follow a radical interpretation of Islam that views visiting tombs and religious shrines as tantamount to idol worshipping. They view

Shiites as heretics and the followers of Islam’s mystical Sufi orders as deviants.

Since the Islamic State group captured Palmyra last month, there have been fears that the extremists, who have destroyed famed archaeological sites in Iraq, would demolish Palmyra’s sprawling Roman-era ruins, which were once one of the most popular tourist sites in the Middle East. Earlier this week, Abdulkarim said he had received “unofficial news” from Palmyra that the mili-

tants intended to blow up the town’s main historic site and that he had contacted tribal chiefs in the area to try to dissuade the militants. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said it had received information that Islamic State militants have mined the site. The report could not be independently verified.

Palmyra’s UNESCO world heritage site is famous for its 2,000-year-old Roman colonnades, other ruins and priceless artifacts. □



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## Report: Colombia generals go unpunished in civilian killings

JOSHUA GOODMAN

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)

— Dozens of senior Colombian army officers implicated in the killing of 3,000 civilians falsely claimed to be rebels a decade ago have risen through the ranks and are escaping punishment for their roles in one of Latin America's worst atrocities, Human Rights Watch said Wednesday.

In a 95-page report titled "On their Watch," the rights group offers the most extensive look so far at the pattern of killings by the U.S.-backed armed forces and the legal proceedings against military personnel who tried to present civilians as guerrillas killed in combat to inflate body counts that led to promotions and bonuses.

While more than 800 soldiers have been convicted for such killings, most are low-ranking soldiers. No charges have been filed against a single officer heading a brigade or anyone else higher up the chain of command at the time of the killings between 2002 and 2008, at the peak of the military offensive against the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

Among the senior officers singled out by Human Rights Watch are two of Colombia's most distinguished soldiers: Gen. Juan Pablo Rodriguez, the current head of the armed forces, and Gen. Jaime Lasprilla, the army's top commander. Both led brigades in different parts of the country that were accused of carrying out at least 76 of the killings while briefly under their command.

"The generals are pretty much off the hook," Jose



In this 2014 photo, the new Colombian armed forces commander Gen. Juan Pablo Rodriguez, right, talks to newly appointed chief of staff Gen. Javier Florez, left, and army commander Gen. Jaime Lasprilla, center, after a press conference where Defense Minister Juan Carlos Pinzon announced the firing of the former armed forces chief Gen. Leonardo Barrero in Bogota, Colombia. (AP Photo/Fernando Vergara)

Miguel Vivanco, the Americas director for Human Rights Watch, told The Associated Press.

The report immediately triggered a call by leftist politicians for a thorough investigation.

But President Juan Manuel Santos strongly defended the two officials, accusing the human rights group of trying to destroy their good name without evidence.

He said Lasprilla and Rodriguez inquired with the chief prosecutor's office Wednesday and confirmed that there are no formal investigations against them.

"The guilty should be punished, but don't come here to stain the reputation of the armed forces," Santos said in a speech to top military commanders in Bogota. Earlier this year, Chief Prosecutor Eduardo Mon-

tealegre said more than a dozen generals were under investigation, but so far none have been charged. Human Rights Watch said Lasprilla is not among those being investigated but Rodriguez is. On Tuesday, Montealegre's office ordered four retired generals, including former army commander Mario Montoya, to provide testimony to prosecutors investigating

the killings of civilians.

The rights group said that while senior officers were unlikely directly involved in the so-called "false positives" killings, documents obtained by prosecutors show the officers signed off on troop movements and payments to soldiers and fake informants involved in the slayings. That lack of scrutiny came during a period when reports were issued by the United Nations and others drawing attention to systematic executions taking place in several parts of Colombia. Santos, a graduate of Colombia's Naval academy, fired three generals and several other top commanders while serving as defense minister when the scandal broke. As president, he has expressed support for the investigations of army personnel. But human rights groups want Santos to go further, especially as he negotiates a peace deal with leftist rebels that in order to stick will require a crackdown on abuses committed by all sides during the country's half-century-old conflict. □

## Militant bombings kill 2 soldiers in south Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)

Two Philippine soldiers have been killed and three others wounded in bomb attacks by Abu Sayyaf militants in a southern province, the military said Wednesday.

The bombings came a week after a pipe bomb killed a soldier and wounded eight others on Basilan, one of the southern island provinces where the militants operate.

The first blast Tuesday morning killed two soldiers and

wounded two others while they were on a road patrol in Sumisip township, a military report said. Another soldier was wounded during a gunbattle between troops and about seven militants following the second blast in Tipo-Tipo municipality.

No one was hurt in the third blast in Lamitan city close to midnight.

The military believes those involved in the bombings belong to an Abu Sayyaf

faction led by Furuji Indama, who is suspected of providing refuge to Malaysian terror suspect Abu Anas, according to spokesman Lt. Col. Harold Cabunoc.

Anas may have trained the militants who attacked a military convoy last week in Tipo-Tipo, said Lt. Col. Cristobal Paolo Perez, an army commander in Basilan.

The militants, numbering around 400 and operating in small bands, have turned

to ransom kidnappings, extortion and other crimes to survive U.S.-backed military offensives.

The Abu Sayyaf is one of several Muslim rebel groups in the southern region of the predominantly Christian nation. The biggest rebel organization and the government have signed a peace accord that grants broader autonomy to the minority Muslims, but the militants have been excluded from the negotiations. □

# Cuba's popularity concerns Caribbean tourism officials

**DANICA COTO**

**Associated Press**

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico**

**(AP)** — Caribbean tourism officials are pushing for a partnership with the U.S. government because of concerns that warming relations between the U.S. and Cuba will result in a significant loss of visitors to the rest of the region. Cuba has seen such a surge in visitors that the fragile budgets of many

tourism-dependent islands will be hit hard if they don't take action, Frank Comito, CEO of the Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association, said Wednesday. "If we continue to operate business as usual, and we all draw from the same pie and Cuba is in the equation ... there will be serious economic and employment consequences," he said in a phone interview. The association seeks to

create a Caribbean Basin Tourism Initiative to help boost investment and travel across the region with help from the U.S. The plan would be modeled on the Caribbean Basin Initiative, a U.S.-led program in the 1980s that sought to boost trade in the Caribbean and Central America. The association proposes the plan in a report that warns of Cuba's impact on the Caribbean and that

was sent to the U.S. International Trade Commission. The report calls the opening of travel to Cuba for U.S. visitors "the biggest and most disruptive pebble to be dropped into the Caribbean pool in fifty years." From January to early May, Cuba saw a 36 percent increase in U.S. visitors from the same period in 2014. It also had a 14 percent jump in other international

arrivals, and Caribbean tourism officials say they expect those numbers to keep rising. "Those countries whose focus has been on the United States as their primary source market and who have not felt any competition from Cuba ... will be surprised at how sophisticated and effective the Cuban marketing machine has become," the report says. □

## Parched Caribbean faces widespread drought, water shortages

**DANICA COTO**

**Associated Press**

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)**

— The worst drought in five years is creeping across the Caribbean, prompting officials around the region to brace for a bone dry summer.

From Puerto Rico to Cuba to the eastern Caribbean island of St. Lucia, crops are withering, reservoirs are drying up and cattle are dying while forecasters worry that the situation could only grow worse in the coming months.

Thanks to El Nino, a warming of the tropical Pacific that affects global weather, forecasters expect the hurricane season that began in June to be quieter than normal, with a shorter period of rains. That means less water to help refill Puerto Rico's thirsty Carraizo and La Plata reservoirs as well as the La Plata river in the central island community of Naranjito. A tropical disturbance that hit the U.S. territory on Monday did not

fill up those reservoirs as officials had anticipated. Puerto Rico is among the Caribbean islands worst hit by the water shortage,



**This June, 2015 aerial photo shows the dry banks of La Plata River in Comerio, in central Puerto Rico. The Caribbean's last severe drought was in 2010. The current one could grow worse if the hurricane season ending in November produces scant rainfall and the region enters the dry season with parched reservoirs, said Cedric Van Meerbeeck, a climatologist with the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology.**

**(AP Photo/Ricardo Arduengo)**

with more than 1.5 million people affected by the drought so far, according to the U.S. National Drought Mitigation Center. Tens of thousands of people receive water only every third day under strict

rationing recently imposed by the island government. Puerto Rico last week also activated National Guard troops to help distribute

season ending in November produces scant rainfall and the region enters the dry season with parched reservoirs, said Cedric Van Meerbeeck, a climatologist with the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology.

"We might have serious water shortages ... for irrigation of crops, firefighting, domestic consumption or consumption by the hotel sector," he said.

The Caribbean isn't the only area in the Western Hemisphere dealing with extreme water shortages. Brazil has been struggling with its own severe drought that has drained reservoirs serving the metropolis of Sao Paulo.

In the Caribbean, the farm sector has lost more than \$1 million in crops as well as tens of thousands of dollars in livestock, said Norman Gibson, scientific officer at the Trinidad-based Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute.

On St. Lucia, which has been especially hard hit, farmers say crops including coconuts, cashews and oranges are withering.

"The outlook is very, very bad," said Anthony Herman, who oversees a local farm cooperative. "The trees are dying, the plants are dying ... It's stripping the very life of rivers."

Officials in Cuba say 75 percent of the island is enduring a drought that has killed cattle and destroyed thousands of hectares (acres) of crops including plantains, citrus, rice and beans. Recent heavy rains in some areas have alleviated the problem some, but all 200 government-run reservoirs are far below capacity.

In the nearby Dominican Republic, water shortages have been reported in hundreds of communities, said Martin Melendez, a civil engineer and hydrology expert who has worked as a government consultant. □

## Airbnb looks to expand Cuba listings to non-Americans

**M. WEISSENSTEIN**

**Associated Press**

**HAVANA (AP)** — Online

home-rental service Airbnb says it is exploring a significant expansion of its operations in Cuba two months after it became the first major U.S. business to enter the island in decades.

Chief technology officer Nathan Blecharczyk, one of the firm's three co-founders, told The Associated Press on Wednesday

during his first trip to Havana that Airbnb had requested a special license allowing people from outside the U.S. to use the San Francisco-based business to reserve stays at private homes inside Cuba. Airbnb currently books lodging only for U.S. residents going to Cuba for 12 special purposes, including educational travel, religious outreach and appearing in athletic and artistic events.

President Barack Obama created blanket permission for those 12 types of travelers to go to Cuba when he declared détente with Cuba late last year and carved a series of exemptions in the half-century trade embargo on Cuba. Because the exemptions are meant to increase personal interactions between Cubans and Americans, they do

not apply to the majority of travelers to Cuba, who come from Canada, Europe and South America. "We are applying for a special license to accommodate non-Americans who want to travel to Cuba for approved reasons. That's something that's in process," Blecharczyk said. "Airbnb has the majority of its users outside of the U.S. ... I think there is huge potential to market to that

audience." He said he was optimistic about Airbnb's prospects but had no idea if the proposal would be approved. "It's too early to tell," he said. "I think the intent is there coming from the president in terms of the way he talks about his hope for Cuba and the direction he wants to take, but there is a bunch of process that has to be worked through." □



## For Fundacion Pa Nos Comunidad: 2015 Polesitting Championships generate AWG. 34,787 for charity!

**ORANJESTAD** - A whopping check for AWG. 34,787,25 was donated to the 'Fundacion pa nos Comunidad,' a charity that assists Aruba's families in need last Friday afternoon. The amount was the proceeds of the 2015 Polesitting Championships, which had been held at Café the Plaza in the Renaissance

polesitters, who handed over the check to the foundation's representatives. The event was won by Liesbeth Cornes, who sat on her pole for a stunning 88 hours and 15 minutes without sleep. This tough competitor broke the record as well. Her colleague polesitter, Akeem Aikman, had to give up at



Marketplace during the weekend surrounding Ascension Day, mid-May. It was Carlito, one of the VIP

66 hours. Both were present at the check-giving ceremony, hosted by Café the Plaza's Coliene. The



polesitters were assisted by VIP-sitters, who joined them four hours or more, raising money for the 'Fundacion Pa Nos Comunidad.' Minister Paul Croes surely deserves mentioning: he raised AWG. 9,950 for the good cause; his brother Adoncito stayed on the VIP pole 11 hours instead of the obligatory 4. Other

VIP sitters included Exclusivo magazine's Jacqueline Suttle, Guisette Croes, Miss Teen Americas 2014 Chysah Verstappen and celebrity photographer Angelo. Photos show the happy faces of the 'Fundacion Pa Nos Comunidad' rep-

resentatives and Liesbeth Cornes, Aikeem Aikman, Carlito and Café the Plaza's Coliene. Coliene, Liesbeth and Aikeem received a gift from the foundation to thank them for their great efforts. □



## Mr. Keith Porter Honored as Ambassador of Goodwill!



**PALM BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice gentleman who is a loyal and friendly visitor of Aruba at the Occidental Grand as Ambassador of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented



in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-to-34 consecutive years. The honoree was Mr. Keith Porter from Verona, Pennsylvania. Keith is a loyal

guest of the Occidental Grand and he loves Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, safety, restaurants, and Aruba feels like a second home, and the Occiden-

tal is his home away from home. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with staff members of the Occidental Grand Aruba. □

## Loyal Visitors Honored by Aruba Tourism Authority!



**EAGLE BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring two very nice families as Distinguished Visitors and Goodwill Ambassadors at the Casa del Mar! The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and

20-to-34 consecutive years. The happy honorees were Mr. Howard and Mrs. Carolyn Loberfeld of Pacific Palisades, California, and Mr. Charles and Mrs. Arlene Giardino of Seaford, New York. Families Giardino and Loberfeld love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restau-

rants, relaxation and being on Aruba is like being in paradise for them. The certificates were presented by Ms. Darline S. de Cuba representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, together with Mr. Bob Curtis, Manager of Casa del Mar, and Mrs. Nohely Cannegieter, who helped to conduct the ceremony at Casa Del Mar Resort. □



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## Barney's Bar & Restaurant: "Food And Fun For Everyone!"



**PALM BEACH** - Barney's Bar & Restaurant is located in the Palm Beach/Noord area, an easy walk from the high rise area or short drive from the low rise area. Barney's is family friendly opened Monday through Saturday from 5pm until 11pm. Every night there are daily specials, fresh fish and their special "Theme" nights. Monday night is All You Can Eat Fajitas, Tuesday night is Schnitzel Night, Wednesday night is Grouper Night, Thursday night is All You Can Eat Ribs, Friday night is All You Can Eat Sliders night and Saturday night is All You Can Eat Steak night.

Here's what recent visitors have to say on TripAdvisor about Barney's Bar & Restaurant:

--"This restaurant was recommended by fellow beach goers and we were glad they told us about it. We wound up going there 3 times in 2 weeks! We had the fish on 2 occasions and ribs the other. We sat outside twice the place was so busy. Make a reservation, since the people were just pouring in. Nightly specials more in a serving than you could eat. Everything was very good and highly recommend. Also, there is entertainment - we enjoyed



hearing it when we were inside but we couldn't hear outside. Very friendly and efficient staff and highly recommend for an evening out." --Reviewed February 10, 2015 by Myrish, Chicago IL.  
 --"Easily reached from the high rise area, this was a neat restaurant with a definite Dutch flavor. Nightly specials and wide variety on the menu." --Reviewed April 13, 2015 by Swimmer-smom14, Silver Springs MD.  
 --"They have many different theme nights, loved the Schnitzel night and my wife loved the all you can eat Ribs night. Ask for Ilse



as your server, she is great! --Reviewed April 1, 2015 by Golderd.  
 --"After 15 years of vacations in Aruba we have dined in most of the restaurants on the Island worthy of a visit. We heard about Barneys from a friend and then from another friend so we decided to give it a shot. We were told that the sirloin tips with roasted veggies and gravy were very good and that's what 3 of us ordered. The other entree that was touted was the grouper crusted with cheese which is what our wives ordered. No risk takers in our group. My sirloin

tips were great and all who went with that meal agreed it was tasty and a good portion. My wife and the other 2 women raved about the grouper. I tasted my wife's and it was very good. Our meal was very good and reasonably priced. In fact Barney's is one of 2 restaurants that we visited twice during our 4 weeks on the island and we can't wait to return next year. --Reviewed March 30, 2015, by JackF, New York, NY.  
 Walk-ins are welcomed if seats are available but it really is necessary now-a-days to make a reservation to insure you have a table. You can contact your concierge desk at your hotel/ time share or call them directly at 586-5420. Feel free to check them out on Facebook at Barneys Restaurant to see what's going on.  
 So, what are you waiting for? MAKE THAT RESERVATION TODAY!!!!☐

## Aruba Tourism Authority Honors Guests Manuel and Karina



**ORANJESTAD** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring two wonderful island guests as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years.

The honorees were Mr. Manuel and Mrs. Karina Fernandez de Borges of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Ms. Darline S. de Cuba representing Aruba Tourism Authority honored the loyal members of the Holiday Inn with their well-deserved Distinguished Visitors certificate. They have been visiting the island for many years with



much devotion and warm feelings. The reasons they give for returning to the island are the warm inviting sun, the

gracious treatment from everyone, the absolute feeling of safety everywhere/anytime, the unending selection of restau-

rants and the abundance of shopping from flea markets to elegance. Congratulations to the Borges Family! □

## Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

**Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"**



**ORANJESTAD** - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009

### Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included.

You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com)

**Driftwood Restaurant.** This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com) Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.



In this March 22, 2015, file photo, Duke's Jahlil Okafor (15) points to a teammate after a basket against San Diego State during the second half of an NCAA tournament college basketball game in the Round of 32 in Charlotte, N.C. Okafor is a top prospect in the NBA draft on Thursday, June 25, 2015.

Associated Press

## Towns, Okafor and good lesser-known players top NBA draft

**BRIAN MAHONEY**  
AP Basketball Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Karl-Anthony Towns hoisted a child high up toward his shoulders, letting the youngster at an NBA community service event feel what it was like to rock the rim with a dunk.

Next up for Towns might be trying to help lift the Minnesota Timberwolves.

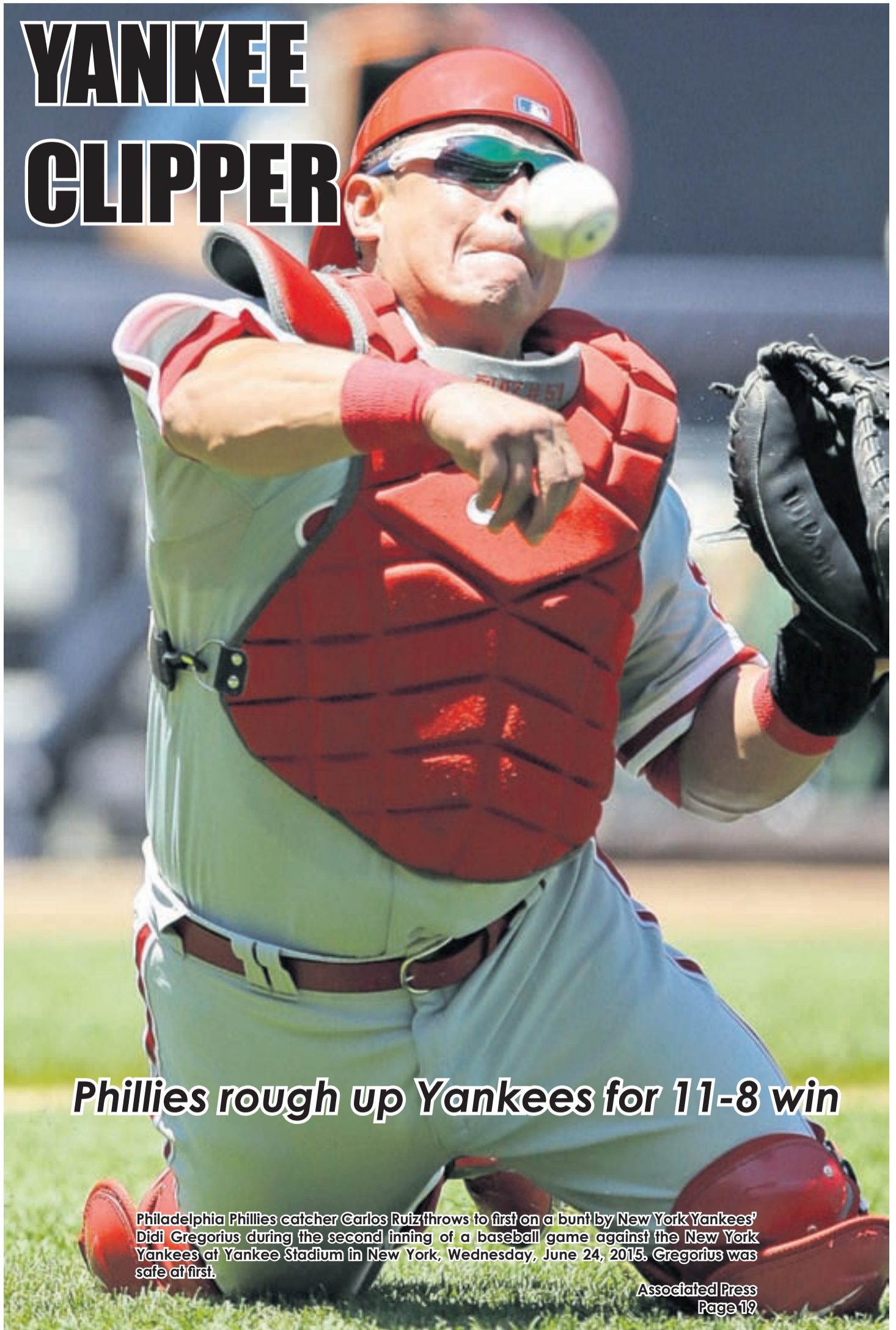
The center from Kentucky is considered the likely No. 1 pick Thursday night in the NBA draft, though he said he isn't sure and doesn't seem concerned.

"I don't know right now. Only thing I can control is making sure I'm the best player I can possibly be for whatever organization drafts me tomorrow night," Towns said Wednesday.

Towns and Duke's Jahlil Okafor are the big bodies from the powerhouse programs, good bets to be the first two picks even at a time when small ball is becoming increasingly popular.

Continued on Page 18

# YANKEE CLIPPER



## Phillies rough up Yankees for 11-8 win

Philadelphia Phillies catcher Carlos Ruiz throws to first on a bunt by New York Yankees' Didi Gregorius during the second inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees at Yankee Stadium in New York, Wednesday, June 24, 2015. Gregorius was safe at first.

Associated Press  
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# AP Interview: Brittney Griner ready to return to basketball

By **DOUG FEINBERG**  
AP Basketball Writer

Brittney Griner is eager to make her season debut this weekend in Minnesota after being entangled in a series of troubling off-court episodes.

The 6-foot-8 star will return to the Phoenix Mercury lineup Saturday having served her record seven-game suspension after a domestic violence arrest in April.

"Basketball is my safe zone, being back on the court means everything for me, basketball is my life," Griner said in a phone interview with The Associated Press on Tuesday. "I'm ready to go. I definitely have been watching and I have been doing everything off the court to be on the court."

Besides the WNBA suspension, Griner pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct and agreed to undergo 26 weeks of domestic violence counseling. If she completes it, the charges will be dismissed. Griner and her then-fiancee Glo-



In this Aug. 9, 2014, file photo, Phoenix Mercury center Brittney Griner is fouled by Minnesota Lynx guard Monica Wright during a WNBA basketball game in Phoenix.

Associated Press

ry Johnson were arrested on April 22 at their home in the Phoenix suburb of Goodyear. It's been a crazy nine

months for Griner since she helped the Mercury win the WNBA championship last September. First, she was the victim of a ran-

dom knife attack in China, where she suffered a small cut when she was struck by a man while boarding a bus after practice last November.

Then there was the soap opera of the past few months with Johnson. The two All-Stars were arrested and then married a few weeks later. On June 4, Johnson announced via Instagram that she was pregnant through in vitro fertilization. A day later Griner said she was filing for an annulment.

Griner said her largest takeaway from the whirlwind six weeks was to "listen to your gut. That's kind of like the biggest thing right now. If you see warning signs, listen to your gut. Get that gut feeling, take a step back."

Because of the still pending court case and her plea bargain, Griner couldn't say much about the arrest. Griner isn't done making news off the court. She'll be baring all in the ESPN Body Issue that comes out next month.

"It was my first time, posing and being naked. It was fun, had a blast," Griner said. "I'd definitely do it again."

Griner said the decision to pose nude came well before the April arrest.

Last season's defensive player of the year isn't the only one happy she's playing again.

"We're so thrilled she's coming back," WNBA President Laurel J. Richie told The Associated Press. "I've read her comments and spoken to her. She understood our decision. She drew great strength from being with her teammates and working hard. She will be ready to come back and is excited to come back. I hope our fans will welcome her back."

Griner has been able to practice with the team, and she said she's been playing 3-on-3 full court to get in game shape. She will meet the Mercury in Minnesota on Friday. Phoenix plays San Antonio on Thursday in the final game of her suspension. □

## NBA draft

Continued from Page 17

Ohio State's D'Angelo Russell could be the first guard off the board, and Kristaps Porzingis and Emmanuel Mudiay are some of the lesser-known names that should be called quickly by Commissioner Adam Silver at Barclays Center in Brooklyn.

Okafor, who led Duke to the national championship, and Towns had been rated evenly at one point, though Towns has moved to the top of the list in most mock drafts. Okafor said he has seen some of them and said "they're all pretty accurate, I guess," and isn't bothered by the idea of being considered second-best.

"I'm still going to be top five or whatever the case may be and I'll still be living my dream of playing in the NBA, so I'll be excited either way," he said. That's partly because of

who — or, perhaps more specifically, where — comes next.

The Los Angeles Lakers hold the No. 2 pick, Philadelphia is third and the New York Knicks follow, providing big-market appeal that would make for a good consolation prize.

"Two is not bad, being in Los Angeles," Okafor said. "Neither is being in Philly. Especially not being in New York."

The head of the class should again be a collegiate one-and-done, as Towns, Okafor and Russell all played just one season. The last five No. 1 picks have all been freshmen.

Teams preferring more experience will be able to find it in players such as Kentucky's Willie Cauley-Stein, who played three years, and Wisconsin's Frank Kaminsky, who was the national player of the year in leading the Badgers to the NCAA championship game as a senior.

"People who go to college and stuff like that have to grow up and they have to



find their way. It's not easy to make it for four years in college and maintain a level of success where you get better and better every year," Kaminsky said. "I was able to do that. I was able to grow up as a person and grow up as a per-

son. You saw how the last year went for me."

And if that's not enough experience, teams can grab some guys who are already pros.

Mudiay was originally slated to attend SMU last season but instead signed to

play in China, averaging 18 points in 12 games for the Guangdong Southern Tigers. Porzingis has played the last 2 1/2 years for Seville of Spain's ACB, one of the best leagues in the world.

The Latvian player, who will turn 20 in August, is an elite shooter but listed at just 220 pounds on his 6-foot-11 frame, so he knows he needs to get stronger. But he said he's prepared to deal with the toughness of fellow power forwards.

"Physical guys in Europe, same like in the NBA," he said. "Of course, a lot more athletes here in the NBA, a lot more stronger, too, but it's nothing that I haven't seen yet. I think probably I'll get dunked on or whatever by some guys, but it's just normal."

He would love to play in New York and could be available to the Knicks at No. 4. So could Russell, as what shapes up as a strong top of the draft appears uncertain beyond the top-two spots. He's OK with not knowing how it will go. □

# Franco extends hitting tear, Phillies beat Yankees 11-6

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Rookie slugger Maikel Franco homered again and had five RBIs for the second straight night at Yankee Stadium, breaking a ninth-inning deadlock with a two-run double that sent Philadelphia to a victory over New York.

Franco lofted a three-run shot to the short porch in right field and Cameron Rupp hit his first major league homer for the Phillies, who handed lights-out reliever Dellin Betances his first major league loss in 110 career appearances. Philadelphia, which began the night with the worst record and fewest runs in the majors, has totaled 31 runs while winning three in a row for the first time since a six-game streak May 13-18.

Garrett Jones, Brett Gardner, Chase Headley and Alex Rodriguez homered for New York, which had won 11 of 12 at home before giving up 34 runs while losing its last three.

MARINERS 7, ROYALS 0

**SEATTLE (AP)** — Rookie Mike Montgomery tossed a four-hitter against the team that drafted him, and Dustin Ackley singled, doubled and homered for his first three-hit game of the season as Seattle beat Kansas City.

Montgomery (2-2) became the second Mariners pitcher this season to toss a complete game, joining Felix Hernandez, and he became the 10th rookie in Seattle history to toss a complete game. Montgomery retired 17 straight batters at one point, striking out a career-high 10 and allowing only two base runners after the second inning.

Montgomery was originally drafted by the Royals, but was eventually traded to Tampa Bay before landing in Seattle via trade before the start of this season. He walked none and

escaped a bases loaded jam in the first inning before overpowering Kansas City the rest of the way.

RAYS 4, BLUE JAYS 3

**ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP)** — Tampa Bay's Chris Archer won his sixth straight decision, allowing three hits over eight innings in a victory over Toronto.

Brandon Guyer and Joey Butler had RBI singles for the Rays, with a wild pitch and passed ball setting up both runs off knuckleballer R.A. Dickey (3-7). The Rays scored a third run off the Toronto starter with help from centerfielder Kevin Pillar 's throwing error and Asdrubal Cabrera hit a solo homer off Steve Delabar for a 4-2 lead in the eighth. Edwin Encarnacion's solo homer off Brad Boxberger, who earned his 19th save, trimmed Toronto's deficit to one run in the ninth.

Archer (9-4) improved to 3-0 against Toronto this season, allowing two runs and seven hits while striking out 25 over 22 innings in those games. He is 6-1 in 12 career starts against the Blue Jays and held them hitless Tuesday until Dioner Navarro homered with one out in the fifth.

ASTROS 13, ANGELS 3

**ANAHEIM, California (AP)** — Luis Valbuena homered twice and touted rookie Carlos Correa hit a mammoth three-run shot off C.J. Wilson, powering Houston Astros to a rout of Los Angeles.

The AL West-leading Astros have homered in 10 straight games, their longest streak since a 12-game stretch in 2007. They lead the majors with 107 home runs and 31 multihomer games, improving their record to 29-2 when they've hit more than one.

Collin McHugh (8-3) pitched a season-high eight innings, allowing two runs on nine hits and striking out six. The right-hander escaped a bases-loaded jam in the first after a two-

out intentional walk to AL home run leader Albert Pujols.

Wilson (5-6) was charged with a season-worst seven earned runs and eight hits over 3 1-3 innings in his shortest outing of 2015.

ATHLETICS 8, RANGERS 6

**ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)** — Josh Phegley homered and had a two-run double, and Ben Zobrist also went deep as Oakland beat Texas in a series opener.

Phegley's double chased rookie Chi Chi Gonzalez (2-2) and tied the game at 5 in the sixth. Phegley scored on Marcus Semien's RBI single to put the A's ahead to stay.

Oakland is 18-11 since being 16 games under .500 on May 22.

Rougned Odor had a two-run homer among his three hits for the Rangers, who have their first three-game losing streak since May 14-16. Elvis Andrus drove in two runs and scored early on a passed ball against Phegley.

Athletics starter Jesse Chavez (4-6) allowed five runs and eight hits over five innings. The right-hander struck out three and walked two.

ORIOLES 6, RED SOX 4

**BOSTON (AP)** — David Lough hit a three-run homer in Baltimore's four-run second inning as the Orioles beat Boston for their 12th win in 15 games.

The Red Sox had a chance to tie it in the ninth after Dustin Pedroia's two-out, run-scoring double. But David Ortiz lined out to third as Zach Britton earned his 20th save.

Lough, starting for the sixth time in seven games in place of injured center fielder Adam Jones, connected off Joe Kelly (2-5) after a sacrifice fly by Ryan Flaherty.

Baltimore made it 5-1 in the fourth on an RBI single by Jimmy Paredes and 6-3 in the sixth on a run-scoring double by Manny



**Philadelphia Phillies starting pitcher Cole Hamels (35) tags out New York Yankees Didi Gregorius after Gregorius was caught in a rundown between third and home during a baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York, Wednesday, June 24, 2015.**

**Associated Press**

Machado.

Boston scored single runs in the third, fourth and fifth off Ubaldo Jimenez (6-3).

TIGERS 7, INDIANS 3

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — David Price allowed one run in 6 2/3 innings as Detroit scored six times in the fifth to continue its dominance over Cleveland.

The Tigers are 9-2 against the Indians and have won all five games at Progressive Field this season. Detroit is 20-5 in Cleveland over the past three seasons.

Price (7-2) scattered nine hits and struck out seven. The left-hander is 9-1 in his last 11 starts against Cleveland, including a shutout at Comerica Park on June 12.

Miguel Cabrera was 2 for 5 and is hitting .619 (26 for 42) with five homers and 16 RBIs in the season series. He's 15 for 22 in five games in Cleveland.

Ironically, Cabrera's weak tapper with the bases loaded in the fifth helped turn the game in Detroit's favor. Danny Salazar (6-3) committed an error on the apparent inning-ending double play grounder that

broke a 1-all tie.

WHITE SOX 6, TWINS 2

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Jeff Samardzija struck out seven batters in seven innings for just his second win in nine starts on the road this season, and the White Sox beat the Minnesota Twins 6-2 Tuesday to snap a seven-game losing streak away from Chicago.

Geovany Soto had two RBI singles and Melky Cabrera drove in the go-ahead run on a two-out single seventh to give Samardzija (5-4) the victory, sending Twins starter Mike Pelfrey (5-4) to his first loss in seven starts at home this year.

Jose Abreu had a career-high four hits for the White Sox, who stopped another dubious slide by topping three runs for the first time in 10 games. That was their longest such run since 1976. In other AL games it was Philadelphia 11, N.Y. Yankees 6; Baltimore 6, Boston 4; Detroit 7, Cleveland 3; Tampa Bay 4, Toronto 3; Oakland 8, Texas 6; Chicago White Sox 6, Minnesota 2; Houston 13, L.A. Angels 3; and Seattle 7, Kansas City 0. □

# Carlos Martinez helps Cardinals rally past Marlins 4-3

**MIAMI (AP)** — Right-handed pitcher Carlos Martinez shook off a slow start and a fastball that hit him in the right shoulder to pitch seven innings, helping the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Miami Marlins 4-3 Tuesday. Martinez (8-3) trailed 3-0 after 1 1-3 innings before settling down.

He retired the final seven batters he faced, including three after taking a 94-mph fastball in the shoulder while trying to bunt in the seventh.

Martinez struck out nine and allowed eight hits. He gave up a two-run homer in the first inning to major league home run and RBI leader Giancarlo Stanton, a shot estimated at 484 feet.

That matched Stanton's previous longest this year, and he now has 26 homers, including the longest two in the majors in 2015.

Justin Heyward hit his eighth homer for the Cardinals.

PADRES 3, GIANTS 2, 11 INNINGS

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Alexi Amarista singled in the go-ahead run as the San Diego Padres beat San Francisco in 11 innings. Brandon Maurer (5-0) pitched two scoreless innings to earn the victory while Craig Kimbrel earned his 18th save.

Derek Norris doubled against Hunter Strickland (0-1) with one out in the 11th and went to third on Justin Upton's single. Amarista's grounder tipped off Strickland's glove and out of the reach of second baseman Joe Panik, allowing Norris to cross the plate. Madison Bumgarner retired the first 14 hitters he faced, 10 by strikeout. Brandon Crawford dove to catch Yangervis Solarte's liner just before Yonder Alonso blooped a single into right to break up Bumgarner's bid for a perfect game.

Bumgarner allowed two runs on five hits over 7 1/3 innings. He walked one and struck out a career-high 14.

CUBS 1, DODGERS 0, 10 INNINGS

CHICAGO (AP) — Chris De-



St. Louis Cardinals' Carlos Martinez delivers a pitch during the first inning of a baseball game against the Miami Marlins, Tuesday, June 23, 2015, in Miami.

Associated Press

norfia hit a game-ending sacrifice fly in the 10th inning as Chicago beat Los Angeles for its fourth consecutive victory.

The Cubs loaded the bases with no outs in the 10th on two singles and a walk. Dodgers manager Don Mattingly then replaced Joel Peralta (1-1) with Kenley Jansen and brought the infield in.

Los Angeles got one out when Addison Russell bounced into a fielder's choice, with first baseman Adrian Gonzalez juggling the ball before making a strong throw to the plate. But Denorfia followed with a line drive to center that Joc Pederson brought in on the run, giving him no chance of making a play. Jason Motte (5-1) pitched a scoreless inning for the win, finishing a three-hitter for Jason Hammel and three relievers.

NATIONALS 3, BRAVES 1

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Stephen Strasburg pitched five shutout innings in his return from the disabled list and Anthony Rendon equaled his career-high with four hits

as Washington defeated Atlanta.

Wilson Ramos added three hits for the Nationals, who have won four straight while allowing a total of four runs.

Strasburg (4-5), who missed 21 games with neck tightness, was resilient in his return. He allowed baserunners in four of five innings, but only one got as far as second base.

It was Strasburg's first scoreless start this season.

The right-hander allowed four hits and a walk while striking out six. He was lifted after throwing 94 pitches in a game that was delayed 2 hours and 12 minutes at the start by rain.

BREWERS 3, METS 2

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Carlos Gomez scored the tie-breaking run in the seventh inning when outfielder Michael Cuddyer misplayed a double off the wall, helping Milwaukee beat injury-riddled New York.

Gomez had yet to reach third on Adam Lind's double down the left-field line off Sean Gilmartin when the ball took a high hop off

the side wall on Cuddyer. The ball bounced just over Cuddyer's glove and trickled through his legs, allowing Gomez to score.

New York lost its sixth straight, falling to .500 (36-36) for the first time since it was 3-3 on April 12.

Will Smith (3-0) pitched 1 1-3 innings of scoreless relief before Francisco Rodriguez tossed a perfect ninth for his 14th save in 14 chances. The Mets placed starting catcher Travis d'Arnaud on the disabled list before the game with a left elbow injury.

PIRATES 7, REDS 6

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Andrew McCutchen and Francisco Cervelli homered during a fourth-inning outburst as Pittsburgh ended a three-game losing streak with a win over Cincinnati.

Cervelli hit a three-run homer off Cincinnati rookie starter Josh Smith and McCutchen followed with a two-run shot off reliever Pedro Villarreal (0-2). McCutchen and Josh Harrison had two hits each for Pittsburgh.

Rob Scahill (2-3) earned

the win in relief of ineffective starter Jeff Locke. Mark Melancon worked a perfect ninth to pick up his major league-leading 24th save.

Jay Bruce homered and drove in three runs for the Reds. Cincinnati left 12 men on base and went just 4 for 17 with runners in scoring position. Smith struggled with his command in his debut and Pittsburgh eventually took advantage.

ROCKIES 10, DIAMONBACKS 5

**DENVER (AP)** — Nolan Arenado hit two home runs, including a go-ahead three-run shot in Colorado's six-run fifth inning

as the Rockies rallied to beat Arizona.

Wilin Rosario, D.J. LeMahieu and Brandon Barnes also homered to help Kyle Kendrick (3-9) win at Coors Field for the first time in seven home starts since signing with Colorado in the offseason as a free agent. The game included a 38-minute weather delay because of lightning and a brief downpour. □

# 2-time champ Rafael Nadal seeded No. 10 for Wimbledon

**LONDON (AP)** — Two-time champion Rafael Nadal was seeded No. 10 for Wimbledon on Wednesday, his lowest seeding ever at the All England Club. The seeding means Nadal could face top contenders as early as the fourth round, and one of the top four seeded players in the quarterfinals. The All England Club stuck mainly to the rankings in its list of seedings for the grass-court Grand Slam, which starts Monday. Defending champion and top-ranked Novak Djokovic is seeded No. 1, with five-time winner and top-ranked Serena Williams No. 1 among the women. Nadal, who won Wimbledon in 2008 and 2010, has slipped to 10th in the rankings after injuries and poor results. The Spaniard lost in the first round of Queen's Club last week, after winning on grass in Stuttgart the previous week. Nadal's previous lowest

seeding at Wimbledon was No. 5 in 2013. Other than that, he's always been among the four, except when he was unseeded in his first appearance at Wimbledon in 2003. Until 2002, the All England Club had its own seeding committee and used its discretion to seed players outside the rankings. Since then, it has used a "surface-based system" in agreement with the ATP that reflects grass-court results, and doesn't veer much from the rankings. Djokovic is followed in the men's seedings by seven-time champion Roger Federer, 2013 winner Andy Murray, French Open champion Stan Wawrinka, and Kei Nishikori. Rounding out the top 10 are Tomas Berdych, Milos Raonic, David Ferrer, Marin Cilic and Nadal. In a minor change, Raonic and Ferrer switched places, with the Canadian moving up a spot to the No. 7 seeding and Ferrer

dropping one to No. 8. Despite his drop in form and low seeding, Nadal is still considered among the top group of title contenders, behind Djokovic, Murray and Federer. There are also dangerous floaters outside the top 10, including No. 11 Grigor Dimitrov, No. 13 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, No. 17 John Isner, No. 18 Gael Monfils, and No. 23 Ivo Karlovic. Wimbledon stuck strictly to the WTA rankings for the women's seedings. Following Williams in the top 5 are defending champion Petra Kvitova, Simona Halep, Maria Sharapova, and Caroline Wozniacki. The rest of the top 10 are Lucie Safarova, Ana Ivanovic, Ekaterina Makarova, Carla Suarez Navarro, and Angelique Kerber. Last year's losing finalist, Eugenie Bouchard, is only at No. 12 after a season marked by early round losses. The Wimbledon draw will be on Friday. □



Spain's Rafael Nadal looks up after losing a point to Ukraine's Alexandr Dolgoplov during their men's singles tennis match at Queen's tennis championship in London, Tuesday June 16, 2015. Associated Press

# Bouchard retires injured at Eastbourne, Wozniacki advances

**EASTBOURNE, England (AP)** — Eugenie Bouchard retired from her match with a stomach injury, while Caroline Wozniacki came from a set down to beat Svetlana Kuznetsova in the third round of the Wimbledon warm-up tournament at Eastbourne on Wednesday. Bouchard, the runner-up at Wimbledon last year, was losing 6-4, 3-0 to Belinda Bencic of Switzerland when she quit because of an abdominal injury that had been troubling her since the first set and was affecting her serve. The seventh-seeded Canadian said the injury would not stop her from lining up at the All England Club, where play begins Monday. "I'm going to play no matter what, even if I'm on one leg," Bouchard said.



Canada's Eugenie Bouchard takes a break before retiring in her match against Switzerland's Belinda Bencic during day five of the women's international tennis tournament at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, England, Wednesday June 24, 2015. Associated Press

The player who beat Bouchard in last year's Wimbledon final, Petra Kvitova, pulled out on Monday because of illness before she had played a match. Kvitova was seeded No. 1 at Eastbourne.

The second-seeded Wozniacki beat Kuznetsova 6-7 (3), 6-3, 6-1 to set up a quarterfinal match against Germany's Andrea Petkovic, who defeated Coco Vandeweghe of the United States 6-3, 6-4. □

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SUN & HOL 3:00 | 5:35 | 8:10

MON-THURS 4:25 | 7:00 | 9:35  
FRI 4:25 | 7:00 | 9:35 | 12:05  
SAT 1:50 | 4:25 | 7:00 | 9:35 | 12:05  
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:25 | 7:00 | 9:35

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WITH DUTCH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 5:05 | 7:15 | 9:25  
FRI 5:05 | 7:15 | 9:25 | 11:35  
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3D VERSION

MON-THURS 4:15 | 6:25 | 8:35  
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SAT 2:05 | 4:15 | 6:25 | 8:35 | 10:45  
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2D VERSION

MON-THURS 5:20 | 7:30  
FRI 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40  
SAT 3:10 | 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40  
SUN & HOL 3:10 | 5:20 | 7:30

**ON TWO SCREENS**

**JURASSIC WORLD**

3D VERSION

MON-THURS 3:55 | 6:25 | 9:10  
FRI 3:55 | 6:25 | 9:10 | 11:55  
SAT 3:40 | 6:25 | 9:10 | 11:55  
SUN & HOL 3:40 | 6:25 | 9:10

2D VERSION

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FRI 5:35 | 8:20 | 11:05  
SAT 2:50 | 5:35 | 8:20 | 11:05  
SUN & HOL 2:50 | 5:35 | 8:20

**SPY**

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 6:45  
FRI 6:45  
SAT 2:00 | 6:45  
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 6:45

**INSIDIUS 3**

CHAPTER

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 4:30 | 9:20  
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# AP source: USADA looking into allegations against Salazar

**EDDIE PELLIS**

**PAT GRAHAM**

**AP Sports Writers**

**EUGENE, Ore. (AP)** — The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency has launched an investigation into allegations that famed track coach Alberto Salazar encouraged Olympic silver medalist Galen Rupp and others in his stable of elite runners to skirt anti-doping rules, The Associated Press has learned.

A person with knowledge of the investigation told the AP on Wednesday that more than a dozen witnesses have been interviewed and USADA is actively pursuing documents and other evidence from Salazar, who coached Rupp to second place in the 10,000 meters at the London Olympics.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because anti-doping investigations are considered confidential.

A story by ProPublica and BBC earlier this month contained allegations from former Salazar assistant Steve Magness and a former Salazar runner, Kara Goucher, that Salazar skirted the rules. Salazar responded Wednesday by publishing a 12,000-word letter online disputing the allegations, saying the Oregon Project he leads "will never permit doping."

USADA spokeswoman Annie Skinner released a statement that said, "USADA takes all reports of doping seriously and we aggressively follow up on all information we receive in order to fulfill our oath to protect clean athletes and the integrity of competition." Her statement did not directly mention Salazar.

Salazar's key sponsor, Nike, released a statement, saying the company had conducted its own internal investigation and found no evidence to support the doping allegations.

The 56-year-old track coach, who won the 1982 Boston Marathon and the New York Marathon three straight times from 1980-82, went public to clear his



**In this Aug. 4, 2012 file photo, Britain's Mo Farah, right, celebrates winning the men's 10,000m final with silver medalist USA's Galen Rupp, at left and coach Alberto Salazar, during the Olympics held in London.**

name on the eve of U.S. championships in Oregon, where Rupp is scheduled to go for his seventh straight national title at 10,000 meters.

In his letter, Salazar said Goucher suffers from the same thyroid disease as Rupp, and that she introduced Rupp to the first endocrinologist who treated him.

Thyroid medication is not banned under anti-doping rules, though there's some evidence that it can help improve performance.

Salazar also implies Mag-

ness was jaded because he was fired from the Oregon Project in 2012, and that while Magness "makes a number of inflammatory and false statements about the Oregon Project and me personally, at no point does he allege that any doping violations occurred while he was with the Oregon Project. That's because none did."

It is a lengthy, detailed screed by arguably the world's most powerful long-distance running coach — one that comes after nearly a month's worth of

almost-daily doping allegations that have come out since the BBC-ProPublica story.

Salazar disputes them all, both in general terms — "The Oregon Project will never permit doping and athletes must fully comply with the WADA Code and IAAF Rules" — and in very detailed, specific ways.

Notably, Salazar said Rupp has received only two therapeutic-use exemptions for the asthma medicine prednisone and none since 2012. That runs contrary to claims in the BBC story

**Associated Press**

that the 29-year-old took the medicine continuously since he was 15. At nationals in 2011,

Rupp famously ran wearing a mask to limit his pollen intake. Salazar writes he did that because he had not yet received clearance for a TUE for prednisone.

Salazar also took exception to a sentence in the story that implied Project Oregon athletes were required to have prescriptions for asthma and thyroid medication.

He said 9 percent of his athletes were diagnosed with a thyroid condition after he started coaching them. He said 14 percent have been diagnosed with exercise-induced asthma, which is below the average on some recent U.S. Olympic teams.

Another of Salazar's runners, two-time Olympic champion Mo Farah, was caught up in the aftermath of the BBC story, even flying to Salazar's home base in Portland,

Oregon, to get everything straightened out. The British runner, not implicated in any of the allegations, routinely trained with Rupp.

USA Track and Field CEO Max Siegel said in an email to AP that he's been following the situation, but that "it's under the authority of USADA. ... We are confident in their work and oversight." □

Neither Salazar nor Gouch-

## 2013 Tour de France champ Froome missed drug test this year

**SAMUEL PETREQUIN**

**AP Sports Writer**

**PARIS (AP)** — Former Tour de France champion Chris Froome revealed on Wednesday he missed a drug test this year while taking a couple of days off in Italy with his wife.

Froome said he missed the test while staying at an exclusive hotel during a recovery period.

"Yes, I have missed a drug test," he said in a phone interview. "The first morning we were down there, the authorities showed up at seven o'clock in the morning and the hotel wouldn't give them access to our

room. They also refused to let them call up to the room."

Froome said he found out about the anti-doping controllers at his hotel later that morning, when he went down for breakfast.

"They said to us, 'Oh, anti-doping guys were here to test you this morning, but it's our policy not to let anyone disturb our clients,'" he recalled.

Froome pleaded he acted in good faith, but admitted he should have let the hotel staff know there was a possibility that he could be tested. Riders need to provide their whereabouts

at all times to allow out-of-competition tests.

"That was a hugely frustrating situation for me," the Briton said.

"I did appeal it, and try and explain the circumstances to the authorities, but at the end of the day I do take responsibility for that case."

Froome did not specify who requested the test, and whether he had been cleared of wrongdoing. The UCI did not comment on the case and UK anti-doping agency officials declined to confirm whether they requested the test.

The 2013 Tour champion

has never failed a doping test, and last year criticized the lack of out-of-competition tests before cycling's biggest race.

He's among the four main Tour contenders this year, alongside Alberto Contador, defending champion Vincenzo Nibali, and Colombian climber Nairo Quintana.

The news about Froome came less than a week after British athlete Mo Farah confirmed he missed two tests in 2010 and 2011 in the buildup to the 2012 London Olympics, where he won the 5,000 and 10,000 meters. □

# Lasers, magnetism allow glimpses of the human brain at work

**MALCOLM RITTER**

**AP Science Writer**

**NEW HAVEN, Connecticut**

**(AP)** — To the untrained eye, the graph looked like a very volatile day on Wall Street — jagged peaks and valleys in red, blue and green, displayed on a wall.

But the story it told was not about economics.

It was a glimpse into the brains of Shaul Yahil and Shaw Bronner, two researchers at a Yale University lab, as they had a little chat.

"This is a fork," Yahil observed, describing the image on his computer.

"A fork is something you use to stab food while you're eating it. Common piece of cutlery in the West."

"It doesn't look like a real fancy sterling silver fork, but very useful," Bronner responded. And then she described her own screen: "This looks like a baby chimpanzee ..."

The jagged, multicolored images depicted what was going on in the two researchers' heads — two brains in conversation, carrying out an intricate dance of internal activity. This is no parlor trick.

The brain-tracking technology at work is just a small part of the quest to answer abiding questions about the workings of a three-pound (1.4-kilogram) chunk of fatty tissue with the consistency of cold porridge.

How does this collection of nearly 100 billion densely packed nerve cells, acting through circuits with maybe 100 trillion connections, let us think, feel, act and perceive our world? How does this complex machine go wrong and make people depressed, or delusional, or demented? What can be done about that? Such questions spurred President Barack Obama to launch the BRAIN initiative in 2013. Its aim: to spur development of new tools to investigate the brain. Europe and Japan are also pursuing major efforts in brain research.

The mysteries of this organ, which sucks up about 20



**Shaw Bronner, left, and Shaul Yahil, two researchers at the Yale Brain Function Lab, describe images on their computer screens to each other while their brain activity is mapped during a demonstration of the technology in New Haven, Conn. on Friday, March 13, 2015.**

**Associated Press**



**Dr. Joy Hirsch, director of the Yale Brain Function Lab, describes her research in New Haven, Conn. on Friday, March 13, 2015.**

**Associated Press**

percent of the body's energy, are many and profound. But with a collection of sophisticated devices, scientists are peering inside the working brains of people for clues to what makes us tick.

At the Yale lab, Yahil and Bronner were demonstrating a technique being used there to investigate how our brains let us engage with other people. That's one of the most basic questions in neuroscience, as well as an ability impaired in autism and schizophrenia, said lab director Joy Hirsch.

As the two researchers chatted, each wore a black-and-white skullcap from which 64 slender black cables trailed away like dreadlocks. At the tip of half of those fiber optic

cables, weak laser beams slipped through their skulls and penetrated about an inch (2.5 centimeters) into their brains. There, the beams bounced off blood and reflected back to be picked up by the other half of the cables.

Those reflections revealed how much oxygen that blood was carrying.

And since brain circuits use more oxygen when they're busier, the measurements provided an indirect index to patterns of brain activity as Bronner listened to Yahil and replied, and vice versa.

The most widely used brain-mapping technique, however, is a different one called functional magnetic resonance imaging, or fMRI. Basically, fMRI does what Hirsch's laser system

does: It uses oxygen levels in blood as tracers of brain-cell activity. But it penetrates much deeper into the brain, using powerful magnetic fields.

That lets it seek subtle magnetic signals to track blood oxygen levels on a tiny scale; a bump in oxygen levels indicates active brain cells nearby.

The fMRI technology can detect vanishingly tiny changes in brain activity that are associated with tackling particular tasks. And it can show the activity of a brain that is not focused on doing a task. In this resting state, the brain continues to hum along,

and scientists are studying what this can reveal about it and its illnesses.

Another major emphasis in brain mapping these days is delineating the circuitry that lets the brain operate. Communication flows along an estimated 150,000 miles (240,000 kilometers) of nerve fibers in the average brain. Individual fibers are too fine to see in brain-scanning machines, but they form bundles that can be detected as they cross the deep central portion of the brain.

Those bundles are one focus of researchers who are mapping out the brain's "connectome," the complex web of these connections between areas of gray matter, where thinking takes place.

One goal is better understanding what parcels of tissue do what jobs in the brain's outer layer, the cerebral cortex.

Some brain-scanning research rises from the informative to the truly startling, like decoding — looking at brain activity patterns to figure out what somebody is seeing, or even thinking about.

In 2011, for example, researchers reported that they could reconstruct very rough visual replicas of movie clips that people were watching while their brains were scanned. □



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## Ikea raises minimum wage for US workers 2nd year in a row

**ANNE D'INNOCENZIO**

**AP Retail Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Ikea's U.S. division is raising the minimum wage for the second year in a row as the Swedish ready-to-assemble furniture chain looks to improve its relations with workers and reduce worker turnover. Starting Jan. 1, Ikea's average minimum hourly wage will increase to \$11.87, which is \$4.62 above the current federal wage and marks a \$1.11 in-

crease, or 10 percent, from this year's average minimum pay. The increase will affect 32 percent of Ikea's 10,500 U.S. store workers and will raise the average hourly wage to \$15.45. That's up from the current \$14.19 per hour. The increase also covers workers in some distribution centers. Ikea raised the minimum wage in June 2014 by an average of 17 percent, effective 2015. That marked the biggest increase in 10

years in the U.S. for the retailer. It also pegged the raise to the cost of living in each location, instead of what competitors are offering as most stores do, signaling a new approach to its pay structure. The pay raise comes as several retailers, including Wal-Mart Stores Inc., have announced wage hikes and other incentives to attract workers and to stay competitive in an improving job market. They've also faced pres-

sure from labor-backed groups to increase wages and improve working conditions. Rob Olson, chief financial officer at Ikea's U.S. division, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the increase announced last year was based on data a few years old from the MIT Living Wage Calculator, which takes into consideration housing, food, medical and transportation costs plus annual taxes. Ikea saw the need to raise

wages for next year based on new data from the living wage calculator.

Like other retailers, Ikea had always adjusted wages based on what competitors were offering. Starting with the increase announced last year, raises vary based on the cost of living in each of its 40 U.S. store locations. For instance, Olson said that Ikea workers in the Elizabeth, New Jersey, store will see a 22 percent raise in pay. □

## Stocks retreat as optimism for a Greek debt deal fades

**KEN SWEET**

**AP Business Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Stocks retreated Wednesday, erasing all of the week's earlier gains, as negotiations between Greece and its creditors seemed no closer to reaching a resolution. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 178 points, or 1 percent, to 17,966.07. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 15.62 points, or 0.7 percent, to 2,108.58 and the Nasdaq composite lost 37.68 points, or 0.7 percent, to 5,122.41.

Investors had been hopeful earlier in the week that the Greece problem was reaching the finish line, but those hopes diminished as Wednesday wore on. European finance ministers cut short a meeting on Greece's proposals, citing major policy differences. They plan to meet again Thursday. Greek stocks fell 2 percent.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras criticized the International Monetary Fund as being needlessly picky about the reforms Greece had proposed. Creditors are

demanding, among other things, a freeze on pensions, scrapping some proposed taxes and surcharges on business, and higher sales tax on some goods.

Greece needs an agreement by June 30, when a key debt payment is due to the IMF. In a worst-case scenario, a Greek default could potentially lead to Greece abandoning the euro. "Greece has to be the slowest moving train wreck in financial history; but in a way, it's a good thing because if Greece had failed in 2012 we'd be in a much more dire situation," said Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at BMO Private Bank, which oversees \$66 billion in Chicago. Investors also remain focused on when the U.S. Federal Reserve might increase its key interest rate for the first time in nearly a decade. Fed Governor Jerome Powell said at an event on Tuesday that he expects the U.S. central bank to begin raising its benchmark interest rate in September, with a second rate rise coming in Decem-



**Trader John Panin works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stocks retreated Wednesday, erasing all of the week's earlier gains, as negotiations between Greece and its creditors seemed no closer to reaching a resolution.**

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

ber.

The expectations of an interest rate increase rose after a report released Wednesday showed that the U.S. economy contracted less than previously thought in the first three months of the year. The Commerce Department said first quarter GDP fell 0.2 percent, compared with

its previous estimate of 0.7 percent.

U.S. government bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.37 percent from 2.40 percent the day before.

Among individual stocks, Sysco rose \$1.16, or 3 percent, to \$38.75 after a federal judge ruled that the food distribution company

could not merge with rival US Foods. The Federal Trade Commission had sued to block the deal in February. Homebuilder Lennar rose \$2.06, or 4 percent, to \$51.06 after the company reported results that beat analysts' expectations. Other home builders such as Pulte, D.R. Horton and Toll Brothers also rose. □

## Ford jumps into car-sharing pool with pilot program

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Ford is following the ride-sharing craze, launching its own pilot program in six U.S. cities and in London.

Under the program, customers who finance their vehicles through Ford Motor Credit will be able to rent their vehicle to pre-screened drivers for short-

term use, helping to defray some monthly vehicle ownership costs.

"As most vehicles are parked and out of use much of the time, this can help us gauge our customers' desires to pick up extra cash and keep their vehicles in use," David McClelland, Ford Credit vice presi-

dent of marketing, said in a written statement.

Ford Motor Co. said that 14,000 customers in the U.S. will be invited to participate, along with 12,000 in London.

U.S. customers will partake through ride-share company Getaround, while London customers will use

easyCar Club.

The program is being offered through November to Ford Credit customers in Chicago, Washington D.C., Portland, Oregon and California locations including Berkeley, Oakland and San Francisco. The ride-sharing industry is showing strong growth and more tradi-

tional auto companies are clamoring to get aboard.

Avis spent \$491 million two years ago to buy Zipcar, tapping into strong demand for short-term car rentals in urban areas. Enterprise runs CarShare and Daimler AG runs Car2Go in multiple European and U.S. cities. □

# European merger deal creates US grocery giant

MIKE CORDER  
JOSEPH PISANI  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The owner of Stop & Shop and Giant will tie up with the parent company of Food Lion, creating a \$29 billion grocer that will be in a stronger position to compete with Wal-Mart and other discount retailers. The deal, which would create the fourth largest grocer in the U.S., is the last in a series of buyouts and mergers that has major players bulking up to carve out market share in an industry that has grown intensely competitive. Shoppers may be the biggest winners as the bargaining power of grocers grows along with their size, said Euromonitor retail analyst Tim Barrett. The latest tie up is between the Dutch retailer Royal Ahold NV and its rival, Belgium's Delhaize Group. Yet the combined company, to be called Ahold Delhaize, will generate about 61 percent of its revenue in the U.S.

In addition to Stop & Shop and Giant, Royal Ahold owns the Martin's supermarket chain and online grocer Peapod in the U.S. In Europe, it owns Albert Heijn stores. Food Lion and Hannaford are Delhaize's best-known brands in the U.S. It operates the Delhaize and Tempo chains overseas.

Together, Ahold Delhaize, will have more than 6,500 stores around the world and it would cater to 50 million customers a week in the U.S. and Europe.

Though grocers have grown larger, the grocery sector has become fragmented, with stores like Whole Foods hitting the high end, and Wal-Mart and Dollar general coming in low.

That has left more traditional grocers fighting for the massive customer base that lies in between. As those grocers grow and their leverage increases, they can demand more from food and beverage supplies, said Euromonitor's Barrett.

They are likely to pass on the savings to customers in a bid to take back market share from Wal-Mart, dollar stores and other discount retailers, said Barrett. Earlier this year, the owners of the Albertsons chain bought Safeway, and Dollar Tree is in the midst of buying Family Dollar. Cerberus acquired the Albertsons stores it didn't already own from Supervalu Inc. two years ago, along with four other Supervalu chains. Kroger Co. bought the regional chain Harris Teeter. The deal announced Wednesday consolidates the sector even further. Ahold and Delhaize had combined sales last year of \$60.6 billion (54.1 billion euros). The companies said that the deal will involve one-off costs of 350 million euros that will create annual savings of 500 million euros in the third year after



Shoppers leave an Albert Heijn store of Dutch retailer Royal Ahold NV, in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Wednesday, June 24, 2015. Ahold, which operates U.S. supermarket chains Stop & Shop and Giant, has agreed to merge with its Belgian counterpart Delhaize Group, in a deal that creates a company that will serve more than 50 million customers a week across the Atlantic. (AP Photo/Peter Dejong)

the combination is finalized. Ahold chief executive officer Dick Boer will be-

come CEO and Delhaize CEO Frans Muller will be his deputy.

The deal is expected to be completed in the middle of next year. □

## Monsanto posts 3Q profit, pursues Syngenta tie-up



Photo shows bottles of Roundup herbicide, a product of Monsanto, on a store shelf in St. Louis. Monsanto Co. reported quarterly financial results on Wednesday, June 24, 2015. (AP Photo/Jeff Roberson, File)

MATTHEW PERRONE  
AP Business Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Monsanto Co. reported better-than-expected earnings results for the third quarter on Wednesday as executives of the huge agricultural business continued to make a case for a \$45 billion takeover of Swiss competitor, Syngenta AG. St. Louis-based Monsanto reported earnings of \$2.39 per share on stronger revenue from crop chemicals, compared with results of \$1.62 per share in the prior

year period.

The average estimate of eight analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was \$2.05 per share. But Edward Jones analyst Matt Arnold said the earnings gain was driven by a one-time licensing payment from Scotts Miracle Gro, which sells Monsanto's signature weed killer Roundup to consumers.

"The company's underlying operating performance was more mixed," Arnold said. He noted that Monsanto maintained its

full-year earnings guidance at the lower-end of its range of \$5.75-\$6.00. Its shares fell \$4.97 or 4.4 percent, to \$107.81 in mid-day trading Wednesday.

Monsanto reiterated its goal to more than double its 2014 earnings per share by 2019, emphasizing the potential benefits of a combination with Swiss chemical maker Syngenta, which has three times rejected its unsolicited offers. "Our proposal to combine with Syngenta is an exciting logical next step for our business, offering the opportunity to accelerate innovation and support a more diverse group of farmers around the world," CEO Hugh Grant said in a statement.

Syngenta provided a more detailed explanation this week of its concerns with Monsanto's takeover offer. In a video posted to its website, Chairman Michel Demaré said the offer undervalues the pesticide maker's business, which "they are trying to buy on the cheap." He also reiterated concerns that Mon-

santo is underestimating the antitrust challenges.

Monsanto tried to sweeten the offer for shareholders earlier this month, adding a \$2 billion guarantee should the proposal fall apart. Syngenta said the proposal remains "inadequate."

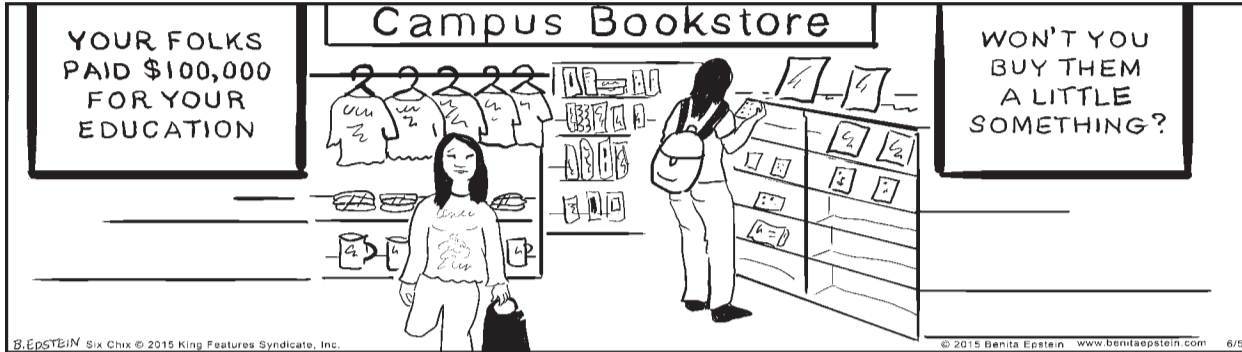
Basel-based Syngenta is the world's largest crop chemical producer and its acquisition would help Monsanto diversify its offerings beyond Roundup. Sales of that chemical have been hurt in recent months by concerns about its safety when used in large-scale industrial farming.

In March the International Agency for Research on Cancer labeled the Roundup's key ingredient, glyphosate, a "probable carcinogen." The company has demanded a retraction from the group, a French research arm of the World Health Organization. The group has no regulatory powers and no commercial sanctions are expected as a result of the ruling. □

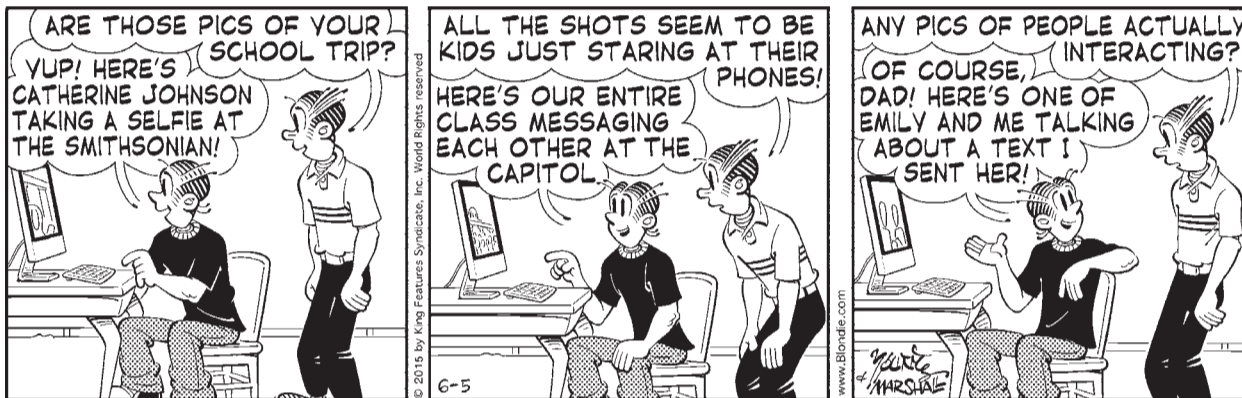
## Mutts



## 6 Chix



## Blondie



## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

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6/05

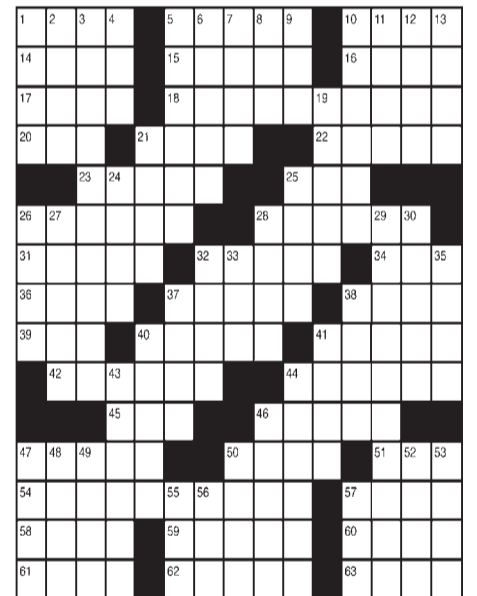
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

3	9	2	6	5	4	7	8	1
1	4	6	2	7	8	3	9	5
7	5	8	3	1	9	2	4	6
6	7	3	8	4	1	5	2	9
4	2	9	5	6	7	1	3	8
8	1	5	9	3	2	6	7	4
2	3	1	4	9	5	8	6	7
9	8	7	1	2	6	4	5	3
5	6	4	7	8	3	9	1	2

### ACROSS

- 1 " of the Flies"; classic by Golding  
5 The Mamas & the  
10 Dull pain  
14 Above  
15 Dwelling  
16 Gangster  
17 Flock of quail  
18 Sickening  
20 Afternoon hour  
21 Clenched hand  
22 Skating ovals  
23 "The Addams Family" butler  
25 \_ person; apiece  
26 \_ out; gets rid of gradually  
28 Least nutty  
31 Despised  
32 Bamboo shoot-eating mammal  
34 Helpful hint  
36 Part of the eye  
37 Carvey & Plato  
38 May honoree  
39 Zodiac sign  
40 Usually benign growth  
41 Car dealer's delights  
42 "You \_\_, you lose"  
44 Tears to bits  
45 Dessert choice  
46 Wide gulf  
47 Many times  
50 Smile broadly  
51 French friend  
54 Crushing grief  
57 Celebrity  
58 " \_\_ Small World"  
59 Swear  
60 \_\_ up; become cheerful again  
61 Sturdy trees  
62 Talk out of  
63 Inquires
- DOWN
- 1 Gray wolf  
2 Dutch \_\_; cast-iron kettle  
3 Eye-opener
- 4 Not moist  
5 Becomes terrified  
6 Embarrass  
7 Sulk  
8 Classifieds  
9 \_\_ red; fume  
10 Clothing  
11 Goatee's place  
12 Handsome guy  
13 \_\_ Benedict; fancy breakfast  
19 Amphitheater  
21 Pebbles' dad  
24 Does drugs  
25 Cushions  
26 Dr. \_\_; TV psychologist  
27 Long-eared animals  
28 Lose it  
29 Deadlocks  
30 Like a three-minute egg  
32 Lacking vivid color  
33 \_\_ day now; pretty soon  
35 \_\_ away; die



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

6/5/15

### Thursday's Puzzle Solved

OWE	STABS	ECHO
POTS	CANOE	NEED
TECH	HITOR	SLED
SHOVELING	ILLS	
GEMS	EGG	
ATTUNE	CHAINSAW	
CHANT	SLING	WII
HEMS	SHORT	TOSS
ERE	ARISE	BERLE
SEDATIVE	HERDER	
GEL	LOAM	
PITA	ASCENDING	
ROWS	NAIVE	TEAS
ITIS	KITES	EAST
MAGI	ALERT	THY

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6/5/15

- 37 Nod off  
38 Defaces  
40 Decimal \_\_; numerical dot  
41 Pillow cover  
43 Musical dramas  
44 Salt container  
46 Stop
- 47 Columbus, \_\_  
48 Greek cheese  
49 Chore  
50 Lahr or Parks  
52 Actor Harmon  
53 Riles  
55 A-E connection  
56 Regret  
57 Hot tub

## Biz-friendly France? Economy chief in US to seek investment

**SYLVIE CORBET**  
**Associated Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — France's economy minister headed to the U.S. on Wednesday to urge more American companies to invest in the country, as he tries to reform the rules and image of a nation with a reputation for strikes and high labor costs.

Macron, a former investment banker, is touting the creativity of French start-ups, especially in digital technology and biotechnologies. The government launched this year "French tech visas" to attract young entrepreneurs from abroad willing to create start-ups in France.

Macron prompted a rebellion within his own Socialist Party for trying to loosen up hard-fought labor protections in a law that bears his name and is working its way through parliament.

But he's not stopping there. He told journalists this week that he wants to "accelerate" and promised another reform to "modernize the labor market" for this autumn.

"We need more flexibility, stability and predictability on the labor market," he said. "If we want more flexibility, we have to decrease the role of the state, and to give more flexibility on the ground to people through contracts, corporate agreements and branch agreements. That's a big reform."

The stakes are high. France's economy has long been stagnant and has a 10 percent unemployment rate that French President Francois Hollande has made it his mission to bring down.

His bill would notably allow stores to open 12 times a year on Sunday instead of five — not a huge change but dramatic for France. Another measure would reform labor courts. The government considers that current labor laws are discouraging hiring, because it is so costly and difficult to lay off or move around workers during a downturn. □

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## U.S. study: Weather patterns that bring heat more frequent

**SETH BORENSTEIN**  
AP Science Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Daily weather patterns have changed in recent decades, making eastern North America, Europe and western Asia more prone to nastier summer heatwaves that go beyond global warming, a new U.S. study finds.

A team of climate scientists at Stanford University in California looked at weather patterns since 1979 and found changes in frequency and strength in parts of the world, according to a study published in the journal *Nature* on Wednesday. These are the types of weather patterns with stationary high and low pressure systems that you see on weather forecasts, which is different than gradual warming from man-made climate change.

The team studied the kind of upper air patterns that "sort of amplifies the warming trend," said study lead author Daniel Horton. The study doesn't attempt to explain why these



In this July 29, 2010 file photo, Moscow's St. Basil's cathedral, background, is seen through the smog covering Moscow, as a heat wave hit central Russia breaking temperature records.

changes are happening. But in general they fit a

theory that has gained momentum in climate science that says melting sea ice in the Arctic has sometimes altered the way the jet stream flows, contributing to extreme weather such as deadly storms and hurricanes, outside experts said. In many cases, including the eastern U.S. and western Asia in summer, some of these changes have become even more notice-

able since 1990, the same period in which Arctic sea ice has gone through a rapid decline, the study found.

"There are more of them each summer and on average they are lasting longer and the longest are lasting longer," Horton said. That pattern shift is even stronger in the summer in Europe and western Asia, Horton and co-author

Noah Diffenbaugh found. The patterns Horton and Diffenbaugh studied are different from the one responsible for the current southeastern U.S. heatwave, Horton said. But the weather patterns were the type responsible for heatwaves that killed more than 50,000 people in western Russia in 2010 and more than 70,000 people in Europe in 2003, the study said. □

**Associated Press**

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24/7

## PBS: 'Finding Your Roots' Affleck episode violated standards



In this Nov. 14, 2014 file photo, Ben Affleck poses in the press room with the Hollywood film award for "Gone Girl" at the Hollywood Film Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — PBS put its "Finding Your Roots" series on hold Wednesday after determining an episode that omitted references to Ben Affleck's ancestor as a slave owner violated its standards.

The public television service said it is postponing the show's third season and delaying a commitment to a fourth year until it is satisfied with improvement in the show's editorial guidelines.

PBS launched its investigation after it was reported that Affleck requested the program not reveal his ancestor's slave-holding history in the 2014 episode. The Associated Press examined historical documents and found that Affleck's great-great-great-grandfather owned 24 slaves.

The review found that co-producers violated PBS standards by allowing improper influence on the show's editorial process and failed to inform PBS or producing station WNET of Affleck's efforts to affect the program's content.

In a statement, series host and executive producer Henry Louis Gates Jr. apologized for forcing PBS to defend the integrity of its programming. He said he's working with public TV on new guidelines to ensure increased transparency.

Affleck's request came to light last spring in hacked Sony emails published on-

line by whistleblower site WikiLeaks.

"These reports marked the first time that either PBS or WNET learned of this request," PBS said Wednesday.

PBS said it will withdraw the episode from all forms of distribution including on-air, digital platforms and home video. The show was also ordered to hire an additional researcher and an independent genealogist to review programs for factual accuracy.

Asked for comment from Affleck, a representative referred to remarks he had posted when the issue first was reported.

"We deserve neither credit nor blame for our ancestors and the degree of interest in this story suggests that we are, as a nation, still grappling with the terrible legacy of slavery," Affleck said on his Facebook page in April.

The award-winning "Good Will Hunting" and "Argo" actor said he was "embarrassed" for a TV show about his family to include a slave owner. He added, among other comments, that "Finding Your Roots" isn't a news program.

Gates and PBS said in April they didn't censor the slave-owner details. Instead, more interesting ancestors of Affleck emerged and Gates chose to highlight them instead in the show that traces the ancestry of well-known guests.

But in an email exchange between Gates and Sony Pictures chief executive Michael Lynton, Gates asks Lynton for advice on how to handle Affleck's request. "Here's my dilemma," says Gates in one email, dated July 22, 2014, "confidentially, for the first time, one of

our guests has asked us to edit out something about one of his ancestors — the fact that he owned slaves. Now, four or five of our guests this season descend from slave owners, including (documentary filmmaker) Ken Burns. We've never had anyone ever try

to censor or edit what we found. He's a megastar. What do we do?"

Lynton replied that it all depends on who knows that the information was in the documentary already.

Last January, PBS station WETA in Washington, D.C., succeeded WNET as the

## Hulu recreates Seinfeld apartment as it releases episodes



This June 23, 2015 image from video shows a replica of the set from Jerry Seinfeld's apartment from the NBC sitcom "Seinfeld," in New York, created by the streaming service Hulu. Hulu made all nine seasons available on Wednesday.

LUQMAN ADENIYI

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — "Seinfeld" fans are getting an open invitation into Jerry's apartment.

Hulu has teamed up with production shop Magnetic Collaborative to remake Jerry Seinfeld's TV apartment for the iconic show's Wednesday release of all nine seasons on the streaming video service.

Hulu created a free memorabilia museum with the world-famous Upper West Side apartment relocated in Manhattan's Meatpacking District. "Seinfeld" lovers can walk through a real-life model of the apartment and see different set items such as the Monk's Cafe table and booth, the Festivus Pole and George Costanza's photo shoot set from different episodes. There is also a canvas "brick wall" full of signatures from the show's many stars, guests

and crew.

Larry Thomas, who played the memorable Soup Nazi, believes "Seinfeld" remains popular because of the show's relationships and the crazy situations its main characters — Jerry, Kramer, Elaine and George — found themselves in.

"What 'Seinfeld' really was about was these people, the way they treat each other, the way they treat the world and, you know, the way the world treats them, and it had nothing to do with the '90s or the technology or some of the other things," Thomas said.

Executive producer and co-creator Larry David later created and starred in the HBO series "Curb Your Enthusiasm." The '90s sitcom was a ratings success during its NBC run from 1989 to 1998, and "TV Guide" named it the greatest television program of all time in 2002.

Associated Press

"When humor is this finely crafted it never gets old," Thomas said. "The mark of good comedy is that you still laugh when you know the punch line. It goes right up there with 'I Love Lucy' and 'Honeymooners,' things that people can watch over and over again and still laugh."

Thomas appeared as a mean and very particular soup chef in season seven. His character would shout, "No soup for you!" to anyone who did not order correctly. He said the character became much bigger than he expected, and remains the role that gets him the most recognition from fans young and old. "Some people will go, 'Oh, you are the Soup Nazi,' and then they will proceed to tell me that they have never seen 'Seinfeld,'" Thomas said.

The pop-up exhibit is open through Sunday at Milk Studios. Admission is free. □



In this Feb. 26, 2015 file photo, former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin speaks during the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) in National Harbor, Md. Associated Press

## Fox News, Sarah Palin part ways

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Fox News Channel and Sarah Palin are cutting ties again. The network said Wednesday that it was not renewing Palin's contract as a contributor. The professional divorce, first reported in Politico, was described as amicable.

The 2008 Republican vice presidential candidate had joined Fox to great fanfare in 2010 and left three years later after some unpleasantness. Fox

News chief Roger Ailes was reportedly angry that Palin had chosen another media outlet to announce she wasn't running for president in 2012.

But only a few months after she left Fox, she rejoined the network as a contributor.

Palin has other ways of connecting to her fans. Last summer, she started her own subscription-based online network, "The Sarah Palin Channel." □

## Comedy Central's Larry Wilmore to Don Lemon: Calm down

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Comedy Central's Larry Wilmore has two words for Don Lemon of CNN: Calm down.

The "Nightly Show" host had some pointed words for Lemon, who became a target of some social media anger for opening his CNN show by holding up a card with the N-word written on it and asking, "Does this offend you?"

Lemon's segment was in response to President Obama's use of the word in a podcast discussion on racism arising from last week's shooting of nine blacks in a Charleston, South Carolina, church.

"You want to see what really offends me?" Wilmore asked on his show



In this Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015, file photo, Larry Wilmore speaks on stage during Comedy Central's "The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore," panel at the Viacom 2015 Winter TCA, in Pasadena, Calif.

Associated Press

Wednesday, picking up a card with the words "Don Lemon" printed on it. □



This May 2015 photo released by Joseph A. Rosen shows blues musician Guy Davis.

Associated Press

## From Belafonte to the blues: Guy Davis' uncommon life

**KILEY ARMSTRONG**  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The blues, at its best, strikes a common chord: Guy Davis unspools everyman's tale with earnest, engaging ease — but his own story is uncommon.

This down-to-earth bluesman wears the larger-than-life mantle of his late parents: activist-actors Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee. The New York native travels the world sharing music steeped heavily in America's South, invoking an era of his ancestors.

"Blues music, to me, is the music of survivors," says Davis. "I grew up in a home where we talked, we listened, we sang. ... There were stories heard in my family that involved racism, lynching."

Today, Davis contemplates incarnations of age-old themes: "Killings in the name of personal hatred ... political hatred ... religious hatred."

"I'm a musician; my friends are musicians," he says. "Maybe we can help to generate a positive spirit, one of brotherhood, opening up. ... The solution can have to do with love ... reaching people by telling stories."

The musician and actor, who's also got a fun-loving side, spoke to The Associat-

ed Press about his life and career while hunkering down to work on his 11th album and heading to this weekend's Rockland-Bergen Music Festival in Tappan, New York.

"I couldn't be a politician. I can tell lies, but I tell them for entertainment," he jokes.

His voice — gritty, sensual, filled with longing, resignation and a spritz of raunchiness — cleaves to his rhythmic fretwork as he enshrines the masters and weaves musical stories of his own.

Music, says Davis, referencing the writer Kurt Vonnegut, is the only thing needed to prove that God exists.

Family and friends influenced Davis. As a "wee lad," he was fascinated by his aunt's guitar. "I put my hand in the hole and tried to ... rip the strings out. I was trying to find the music."

His family's record collection was bountiful: "Uncle Harry" (Belafonte), Nigerian percussionist Babatunde Olatunji, Odetta, Eartha Kitt and Fats Waller. Folk legend Pete Seeger was a cherished family friend and mentor. (Davis was about 11 when he told Seeger in a condescending tone that his own musical tastes skewed toward James Brown.)

Young Guy also absorbed Klezmer in the '60s from musicians playing Broadway with his dad.

"My sisters and I might have been exposed to things not everybody gets exposed to," he concedes, recalling:

— A visit from a barefoot neighbor (Sidney Poitier).

— His parents risking arrest for their beliefs.

— Ossie Davis, in robe and slippers, at the dining-room table at 5 a.m. "My dad's word processor" at the ready: two yellow legal pads, pencils, erasers and tape in a cut-down oatmeal box.

Talent is "a mighty fine thing," he taught his son. "Craft means doing something whether you feel like it or not ... giving people everything you have."

— Ruby Dee, a steely disciplinarian, uncharacteristically defeated by her teen's "snarky remark."

"My dad came downstairs and said my mother was crying. He said, 'Maybe you don't need a mother.' 'Did I fall down ... sobbing? Yes, I did,' says Davis.

Last September, Davis sang his touching "Love Looks Good on You" at his mother's memorial service. "Little old couple, holdin' hands, their grandkids grown but they're still makin' plans ..." □

## New documentary 'Fresh Dressed' explores hip-hop fashion

LEANNE ITALIE

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — From slave-era church outfits and Little Richard to the South Bronx and Dapper Dan the knockoff king of Harlem, the roots of hip-hop culture stretch beyond the music.

They stretch to "fresh," that feeling when your style game is on point, just right straight out of the box. That's the focus of a new documentary featuring Nas as producer, a host of designers and some of the biggest names in music.

The film "Fresh Dressed," out Friday in select cities and on video on demand, is the handiwork of director and journalist Sacha Jenkins, who traces the history and legacy of fresh through interviews, animation and archival footage.

"I had no idea all these things that myself and other kids in the neighborhood were doing would one day turn into this huge global industry," the 43-year-old Jenkins said in a recent interview of his Queens upbringing.

"When I was coming up, break dancing was big and you had to have a pair of Lee twill pants. ... You had to have the Le Tigre shirt, so you're mixing



This image released by CNN Films shows Sacha Jenkins, director of "Fresh Dressed," a new documentary that explores the roots of hip-hop fashion, from southern plantation culture and the rise of Little Richard to the gang warfare of the burned-out, 1970s South Bronx and knockoff king Dapper Dan in Harlem.

Associated Press

and matching the preppy identity with the workwear and the athletic shoes," he said.

And that was just Astoria. New York City was the heartbeat of hip-hop and the style movement that accompanied its rise in the early 1970s, including distinct looks defining each of the five boroughs: velour designer sweatsuits with matching sneakers in

Harlem, or a pair of Clarks on feet in Brooklyn, for example.

But fresh symbolized more than that, Jenkins said.

It was also about your "Sunday best," a term stemming in part from laws in some states that required slave owners to buy slaves at least one decent set of clothes fit for church. It encompassed the spirit of graffiti that covered trains

and walls in styles and hues borrowed to personalize jeans and denim jackets with a name down the side of a leg and original artwork on the back.

It touched young people in the gang-plagued Bronx who sewed patches, silver bangles and used cowhide stitching around the armholes of denim jackets after cutting off the sleeves, emulating the outlaw bikers in

"Easy Rider."

Or it could mean a Kangol hat, some Cazal shades, ultra-baggy pants or Adidas with fat laces that required stretching, starching and pressing to perfect the look.

Fresh prompted riots over Jordan sneakers, shootings over Marmot jackets and mass looting at the hands of boosting crews who rushed fancy Manhattan stores in search of Polo and other coveted brands.

For rapper Big Daddy Kane of Brooklyn, it was about matching the red-and-black Gucci interior of his car to one of his custom suits.

"To me, fresh means you're in something new, something that looks real nice ... and something put together creatively," he said by phone from Raleigh, North Carolina, where he lives.

Kane, among the music pioneers to appear in "Fresh Dressed," was once a frequenter of Daniel "Dapper Dan" Day,

whose Harlem boutique made clothes to order, sometimes using famous logos like that of Louis Vuitton but done in fresh ways for up-and-coming rappers and the hustlers he counted among his urban clientele. □

## Vin Diesel test dives new 'Fast & Furious' ride

NICOLE EVATT

Associated Press

**UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. (AP)** — "Fast & Furious" star Vin Diesel traded the franchise's signature muscle cars for a new kind of ride. The actor, along with co-stars Michelle Rodriguez, Tyrese Gibson and Jason Statham, unveiled Universal Studio Hollywood's latest attraction: "Fast & Furious — Supercharged," which opened to the public on Wednesday.

"I'm more excited than anybody to get on that tram and I want to be in the front seat and I want to know what this thing feels like," said Diesel during a press preview for the ride on Tuesday.

"Supercharged" is a 3-D motion addition to the park's classic studio tour tram ride. Stars of the films take guests on an explosion-packed car chase using hydraulics and HD images projected on a massive 360-degree screen. Riders are blasted with wind, fog and mist as they attempt a high-speed escape through crashing cars and gunfire.

"I know when we were making it, it felt like we were creating something that I had never experienced. We employed all kinds of incredible technology," said Diesel before opening the ride with a ceremony, which included pyrotechnics and car stunts. "I'm re-

ally excited to get in there and feel it out and get that adrenaline pumping."

During his speech to the crowd, Diesel dedicated the ride to his "Fast & Furious" co-star Paul Walker, who died in a car crash in 2013.

He said production will begin on "Furious 8" in 2016.

"It feels like we're beyond having to prove that it's a worthy saga and it feels like we can focus on making it the best film in history and that's what we're going for," Diesel told reporters on the ride's red carpet.

Statham was tight-lipped about the next film, but teased a possible return of his imprisoned character, Ian Shaw.



Vin Diesel, right, speaks at the World Premiere of the "Fast & Furious-Supercharged" ride at Universal Studios Hollywood on Tuesday, June 23, 2015, in Universal City, Calif.

Associated Press

"Anything is possible in the movies, you know that," said Statham. "Unless you're dead, which Shaw wasn't dead. So you know there's a few ways we can resuscitate him. We can

get him out of that prison in more ways than one, don't you worry about that."

Diesel previously announced that the 8th installment will be released on April 14, 2017. □

# Japan's Secret Navy Bunker Gives Glimpse of War's Final Days



A student walks at Keio Senior High School building which was once partially used by Japan's Imperial Navy in Yokohama, south of Tokyo. Concrete tunnels sit quietly underneath the high school and university campus, largely untouched and unknown, occasionally visited by guided tours for the students. (AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

**MARI YAMAGUCHI**

**Associated Press**

**YOKOHAMA, Japan (AP)**

— On a hillside overlooking an athletic field where high school students play volleyball, an inconspicuous entrance leads down a dusty, slippery slope — and seemingly back in time — to Japan's secret Imperial Navy headquarters in the final months of World War II. Here, leaders of Japan's combined fleet command made plans for the fiercest battles, including those of Leyte Gulf, Iwo Jima and

Okinawa from late 1944 to the war's end in August 1945. They knew when kamikaze pilots crashed to their deaths when signals from their planes stopped. They cried when they monitored cables from officers aboard the famed battleship Yamato as it came under heavy U.S. fire and sank off southern Japan. Today, the barren, concrete tunnels sit quietly underneath a high school and university campus, largely untouched and unknown, occasionally visited

by guided tours for the students. The school opened them to the media for the first time this week to raise public awareness of the site and the tragic history it represents, in the 70th anniversary year of the end of World War II. "It's a negative heritage that humans made. It's the perpetrators' legacy," said Takeshi Akuzawa, assistant headmaster of Keio Senior High School, who escorted the media tour on Tuesday. "Just imagine the massive number of people who

had to die in the final year of the war because of their operations."

The inverted U-shaped tunnels are a silent reminder of a time when students and many others were sent to war, many to their deaths, under orders that emanated from this bunker under a school.

Experts say the significance of such war remains is increasing, especially as that era fades from memory, and amid a growing reluctance among some Japanese to look at the negative side of the history.

One of the top Japanese universities, Keio, leased the site to the navy in 1944 under an Education Ministry order, after thousands of teachers, staff and students were drafted and sent to the battlefield, leaving the campus virtually empty. Above ground, the navy commanded from a dormitory, rushing to the underground command center whenever U.S. B-29 bombers flew over.

Keio's Hiyoshi campus, south of Tokyo in Yokohama, was chosen apparently because of its relative proximity to both Yokosuka naval base and command headquarters in Tokyo. The hilltop campus also was suitable for an underground facility.

Construction of the underground tunnels began in July 1944, mobilizing troops and Korean forced laborers. A room for the chief commander, Adm. Soemu Toyota, and key departments were up and running in a few months.

Only in the chief commander's room, cement on the walls was smoothed out, the floor was covered with tatami mats and there was a door. He climbed up and down 126 stairs between the two command centers — above and below ground. His room was slightly elevated so that the floor remained dry, and there was even a flush toilet.

The tunnel command center also had ventilation ducts, a battery room, food storage with ample stock of sake, in addition

to deciphering and cable and communications departments. Marks on the ceiling remain from where overhead lights hung. The tunnels housing the command center and its facilities under the campus are 30 meters (100 feet) underground and stretch about 2.6 kilometers (1.6 miles) in length.

The conditions for those leading the war contrasted with those of ordinary people, who hid in small mud shelters as firebombs rained down from the sky, Akuzawa said.

Hisanao Oshima, who was there from February to May 1945 as a communications crew monitoring Morse code, still cannot forget the moments when he lost signals from kamikaze fighters. "The sound stops, and that means he crashed. I just cannot get that out of my head," he said in an interview with public broadcaster NHK.

This site must be preserved "so that we can say it's the proof why we should not wage war ever again," Oshima said.

Japan also built the Matsu-shiro Imperial Underground Headquarters in central Japan for then-Emperor Hirohito and Imperial Army and key government officials, as they prepared for a possible ground war with the Americans, though that one was never used.

Hundreds of hangers, tunnels and other wartime remains still exist in Japan, but many have been abandoned as interest has waned. A growing sentiment among some conservatives favors the removal of such remains if they are seen portraying the negative history.

Sections of the navy tunnels at Keio were damaged in a development project a few years ago, prompting experts and volunteers to call for more support from the city to preserve the site. Akuzawa said what struck him the most as a teacher was the fact that the university was used as a war command center to send students to the battlefield. □



A security guard closes a metal door of an entrance of underground tunnels that Japan's Imperial Navy once used as secret headquarters underneath of Hiyoshi Campus of Keio University in Yokohama, south of Tokyo. The school opened them to the media for the first time this week to raise public awareness of the site and the tragic history it represents, in the 70th anniversary year of the end of World War II. (AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)